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# HISTORY

OF THE

# SAINT CROIX VALLEY

EDITOR IN CHIEF

AUGUSTUS B. EASTON

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ILLUSTRATED

VOL. II

CHICAGO

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**John Clifford** was born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1824, and upon coming to America settled in Vermont for a short time, afterward coming to Pierce county, where he died in 1904, being buried in the Roman Catholic church cemetery in River Falls, Wis. His wife died in 1898 and is laid at rest in the same cemetery. They were the parents of seven children, six boys and one girl. William lives in St. Paul; John is mentioned below; Mary married John Doty, of St. Paul, and is now deceased; Patrick is on the home farm; Timothy died in 1899 and is buried in the cemetery at River Falls, where his parents are interred; Michael is in the state of Washington, and Daniel is on the home farm. Mr. Clifford was a Roman Catholic in religion and a Democrat in politics. John Clifford, Jr., was born in River Falls, Pierce county, Wis., April 12, 1860, son of John and Margaret (O'Laughlin) Clifford. He was educated in the district schools and remained on the home farm until his marriage, although he had worked out some and in 1888 purchased his present farm. He was married, in 1895 in the month of June, to Mary Mognihan, daughter of Patrick and Hannah Mognihan, of River Falls, Wis. Mr. Clifford is a Democrat in politics and has been school treasurer continuously for twenty-two years, still holding that office. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church, of River Falls. His farm consists of eighty acres on section 30, River Falls township, where he carries on general farming and stock raising.

**Charles Dopkins,** now serving his twenty-fifth year as school treasurer, was born in 1844 in the town of Delafield, Waukesha county, Wis., son of Lewis and Alfa (Plumby) Dopkins. In the family are four half-brothers—Warren is a truck farmer in Chicago; Addison is deceased; Bert lives in River Falls township, and Edgar died at the age of five years. Charles received his education in the common schools and came to Pierce county in 1870, staying one year in El Paso township, after which he removed to his present location, which consists of a fine farm of sixty acres on section 24, River Falls township. He is a Republican in politics and a good citizen in every respect. Mr. Dopkins was married first in 1869 to Louisa Miller, by whom he has three sons and three daughters, all of whom are living. Mattie was born in 1871, married "Mike" McCuewas and has one daughter, Maud, born in 1890. George was born in 1873, married a Miss Durock, had one son, Charles; again married in 1906 to Ella Walker and has one daughter. Lewis married Leddie Wilcox. Hattie, now Mrs. Heacox, lives in Beldenville, and Adelia is still at home. In 1881 Mr. Dopkins was married the second time to Lillie Paterson, a native of Pierce county, whose parents live in Pueblo, Col. Mr. and Mrs. Dopkins have been blessed by this

union with six children—Glen, Merl, Clarabelle, Gladys, Warren and Blanche.

**John W. Ellis,** a carpenter by trade, resides on section 14, River Falls township, where he owns 120 acres of well cultivated land. He was born at Waterville, Me., April 10, 1833, and received a good common school education, later learning his trade. In 1856 he removed to Minneapolis, Minn., and worked at his trade until 1882, when he removed to Redwood Falls, Minn., remaining eight years. After two more years spent in Minneapolis he came to Pierce county in 1892, since which time he has farmed it on his present highly improved place. In politics Mr. Ellis is a Republican. His first wife, Emma Putnam, died in 1873, leaving no children. Later he was married to Lucinda Davis, born in Maine, coming to this locality as a young lady. She died in July, 1896, and is resting for eternity in the cemetery at River Falls. She was the mother of seven children, six of whom are now living. John resides on eighty acres of land in River Falls township, married Lizzie Daniels and has one child, Marjory. Emma is the wife of Chauncey Wilcox, a farmer of River Falls township, and has two children, Hattie and Opal. Katherine married Earl Schoonover, a farmer of River Falls township, and has two children, Leon and Marie. Charles Henry and Ina M. are all at home. Frank died at the age of three years. The children were all born in Minnesota.

**Truman T. Glass** resides in River Falls township. He was born in Chautauqua county, New York, May 22, 1830. He went to Kentucky when eighteen years of age and taught school one year. In 1849 he returned to New York and engaged in the lumber business. In 1850 he was engaged in mining in California. In 1856 he settled in River Falls township, where he has since resided, engaged in general farming. He married Sarah Strahl, who was born in Ohio and moved to Iowa when she was eight years of age. In 1853 her parents moved to Pierce county, and here she has resided fifty-five years. In politics Mr. Glass is a Republican.

**Philip A. Glass** was born in River Falls township, August 31, 1874. He was educated in the district schools and the State Normal. He taught school at Beldenville three years and the district schools of River Falls, also six months in North Dakota and seven months at Deer Park, St. Croix county, Wis. He was at one time engaged in the life insurance business, and is now engaged in farming ninety acres, section 12, range 19, River Falls township. Mr. Glass married Anna Watson, April 8, 1908.

**Lyman and Ezra Healy,** known far and wide as the Healy brothers, are not only descended from an ancient family, but have themselves done their country distinguished service in

times of both war and peace. The father, Manly Healy, was born January 2, 1801, on the shores of Lake Champlain, in the state of Vermont, and became a witness of the War of 1812. During his early life he was a contractor and later in life followed farming. He helped in the construction of the New York & Erie road, the first railroad laid in New York state. The building of the mile which he undertook as his share of the work required the services of forty men and forty teams nearly an entire winter, and the pay which Mr. Healy received was just $40. He married Betsy Newton, daughter of Reuben and Eunice (Manly) Newton, who was born in Onondaga county, New York, in 1804, and passed away in 1872 on the old homestead in River Falls township. Manly Healy passed away in 1875, also on the old homestead. His father's name was Ezra Healy. His stepfather was named Morgan. He was a soldier in the Revolution and the family still preserves as a relic of that great conflict a powder horn about a foot long, which will hold a pound of powder. Unto Manly and Betsy Healy were born eight children—Roxena was born in 1827 and died in 1897; Lyman was born in Mansfield, N. Y., in 1829, and died October 7, 1908; Mary was born in 1831 and died in 1852; Manly was born in 1833 and died in 1889; Amelia was born in 1836 and died in 1902; Ezra was born in Mansfield, N. Y., in 1839; Emily was born in 1842 and died in 1904; Helen, born in 1851, is living with her brother, Ezra, none of the four ever having married. Before the death of Amelia there were four in the family who had lived together for more than fifty-two years. Lyman and Ezra were brought up on the farm in New York state and attended the common schools. In those days the teacher received about $1 a week actual cash, and boarded around in the homes of the various families whose children he taught. The first school, however, that Ezra attended was made up of Indians with the exception of himself and his brothers and sisters. Ezra worked on the farm in his early days, came to Beloit, Rock county, Wis., in 1844, and to Pierce county in 1856. Lyman came to the St. Croix valley in 1851, and in 1852 took up eighty acres of government land on section 5, River Falls township, adjoining the present home. The homestead he purchased from William Wilton, who had taken it up when it was government land. Wilton sold it to Willis McKuhn, who was killed while a colonel in the Civil war, and the land reverted to Wilton, who sold it to Lyman. The brothers now own 240 acres of land, 160 acres of which is in section 4. This tract of land was obtained from the government by a man named Swackhammer, but as he did not appear to claim it the county deeded it to Lyman Healy.

Lyman and Manly were both in the Civil war, enlisting in 1862, and remained until 1865. Manly was in Company F,

Thirteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and Ezra was in Company A of the Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Manly spent two and a half years at Fort Sully helping to build the same, while Ezra helped to build Fort Rice. They were in no active service, their companies being used for guarding provisions and building fortifications. Since the war they have been Republicans; before that conflict they were Jackson Democrats. Lyman has been chairman of the town board for four years. He was once before elected to the office, but was prevented from serving by ill health. He has also served for eighteen years as school treasurer, a position which Ezra held for ten years. Both are among the most deeply respected and highly honored men in the community.

**James B. Hunt,** now residing on section 13, River Falls township, where he owns and operates 100 acres of rich farm land, was born in New Jersey in 1831, January 25, and received his early education in the district schools of that place. About 1848 he moved to Philadelphia, where he engaged in carriage making until 1853. He then spent a year at Chicago and subsequently located in Minneapolis, Minn., where for several years he followed his trade. About twenty years ago he came to Pierce county and settled at River Falls township on the place where he now resides. The farm was partially improved, but he made additional improvements and erected not only a large and substantial dwelling house, but also good barns and other buildings, being now engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has always voted the Democratic ticket, but has never sought public office. Mr. Hunt was married in 1861 to Virginia Grimshaw, who was born in Pennsylvania and came West with her parents, who settled in Minneapolis. She received her education in the common schools of Pennsylvania and remained at home until the time of her marriage. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Hunt have been born twelve children—all born in Minneapolis and educated in that city and at River Falls. Mary, the wife of Charles Daily, of Ann Arbor, Mich., has four bright children, Virginia, Robert, Walter and Ruth. George, a carpenter and builder at Seattle, Wash., married Emma Carkeck and has one son, Elwood. Bertha is deputy county auditor of Washington county, Idaho, and resides in Weiser, Ida. Elwood is a civil engineer in the state of Washington. Mabel, wife of Harry Owen, of Minneapolis, has one daughter, Jessie. Letitia is a school teacher in the public schools of Minneapolis. Jessie, wife of S. A. Ford, has three children—Frances William and Eleanor—and lives in Weiser, Ida. Alice is a teacher in Idaho. Robert is a business college student in Minneapolis. Rhoda married Fred Campbell, of Washington. William resides at home and works the farm

place. Hazel is a school teacher in Idaho. All have done well in their respective lines and are very well liked by those who know them.

**Thomas Cornelius Lauder** was born at Madina, Orleans county, N. Y., August 28, 1851, son of Thomas Lauder and Mary Scott. The father was born in Wightonshire, Scotland, April 5, 1821, and came to America in 1845, first settling in New York state. In 1852 he moved to Dane county, Wisconsin, and in 1854 located in Pierce county, purchasing 120 acres in Martell township. In 1870 he purchased 172 acres of good land in section 1, River Falls township, where he passed away in 1894. The mother was born in Dumfreeshire, Scotland, in 1821, daughter of William and Margaret (Nelson) Scott. She was married in Scotland in 1840 and unto Thomas Lauder she bore eleven children. Jesse was born in 1842 and Jane in 1844, both passing away on shipboard. Samuel was born October 15, 1847, and lives at Clark county, Iowa, where he owns 480 acres. He is now retired. Isabelle lives in Grafton, N. D. She was born in 1849, married John Scott in 1868 and has one child, Samuel, born in 1869. Her husband passed away in 1907. William was born in 1853 and is a resident of Wahpeton, N. D., where he practices law. Gavin was born in 1855 and lives at Walla Walla, Wash., where he is a farmer. Mary, born in 1857, lives in Pierce county, River Falls township, and married Thomas Browell. John, born in 1859, lives in Hettinger county, N. D., where he is a farmer. Alexander was born in 1861 and is a farmer in Burnett county, Wisconsin. James, born in 1864, is also a farmer in Burnett county. Thomas C. received his education in the county schools, later attended the old academy at River Falls and then took a course at the collegiate institute at the same place. He taught school for five years, went to Sargeant, N. D., in 1880, and remained until 1896, when he came back to the old homestead, where he still resides. His farm consists of 172 acres on section 1, River Falls township. While in North Dakota he served as census enumerator of Sargeant county in 1885, and was also register of deeds for seven years and sheriff for two years. He was also chief clerk at the United States land office of Fargo, N. D. For five years he held the general agency of the state of Wisconsin for the Minneapolis Harvester Company. He is a Democrat in politics and attends the Congregational church, of which his wife is a member. Mr. Lauder was married in 1883 to Margaret Louisa Morris, a resident of North Dakota at that time. She was born in New York City in 1864 and lost both her parents while still a babe. This union has resulted in four children—Jesse Margaret was born in 1884. She attended the normal school three years and has been teaching for five years. Clarence

Clinton was born in 1885, attended the normal school three years and lives at home. Charlotte Alida was born in 1885, was educated in River Falls and is a school teacher. Thomas Benton, born in 1890, attended the public schools and works at home on the farm.

**William Lovell** was born in Beloit, Rock county, Wis., son of Richard and Sarah (Pickering) Lovell, the former of whom was born in 1809 in Phimber, Yorkshire, England, and died in 1881, and the latter of whom was born in England in 1810 and died in 1902. The parents came to America in 1853, settling at Beloit, Wis., afterward coming to Pierce county and locating on what is now the old homestead on section 9, River Falls township. William was but three years of age when his parents came to this part of the state. He was educated in the public schools and brought up on the farm. He attended the River Falls Academy and the River Falls Normal School, finishing the course in the latter in 1879. Until 1887 he taught school during the winter months; since that date he has been engaged in farming and stock raising. He owns 195 acres, 110 of which is under cultivation. A Republican in politics, he has served as town clerk for the remarkable period of twenty-three years and as school clerk nine years, giving great satisfaction in both capacities. Mr. Lovell was married in 1886 to Sarah Elliot, a resident of this township at the time of her marriage. This union has resulted in five children—Floyd, born in 1893; Byrne, born in 1896; Lora, born in 1887; Mona, born in 1890, and Helen, born in 1902.

**Manuel B. Robey,** school clerk for fifteen years, was born near Dayton, O., in 1861, son of William and Nancy (Paterson) Robey, the former of whom was born in 1825 and died in April of 1881, and the latter of whom was born in 1827 and died in 1906. Upon coming to this country the parents lived for two years in Kinnickinnic township, afterward moving to section 24, River Falls township, where Manuel now resides. The farm originally consisted of 200 acres; it now contains 120 acres, 100 acres being under cultivation. In the family there were four brothers and three sisters—Mrs. Bell Greur, of Massachusetts; Jennie, who died in 1884; Lonia, who was killed in 1874 by being thrown out of a wagon; Manuel; Marion, born in 1855, now a veterinary surgeon in Grantsburg, Wis.; Dr. Philip, who died in 1900, and Daniel, who died in 1904. Manuel received his education in the common schools of this county and was raised on the farm, taking possession at the time of his father's death. The place is neat and well kept, and Mr. Robey is a good all around citizen, neighbor and farmer in every way. In politics he is a Democrat, and his services on the school board have been highly regarded. He was married in 1888 to Anna Ness, born in Norway in 1868,

daughter of David Ness, both of her parents being still alive in the old country. She came to America in 1885, and at the time of her marriage was residing in Grand Forks, N. D. This union has been blessed with eight children—Thornton, born in 1889; Roscoe, born in 1890; Flavel, born in 1893; Ferris, born in 1895; Delmer, born in 1897; Laverne, born in 1899; Alice, born in 1904; Ernest, born in 1907.

**Sherman R. Staples** is a native of Pittsburg, Pa., born June 30, 1828, son of Job and Susan (Hayes) Staples. He was educated in the common schools at the primitive period when scanty facilities were afforded. In October, 1853, he came to Pierce county and purchased land on section 31, River Falls township, remaining until 1892, when he sold it and purchased a farm on section 27, where he remained until the time of his death, January 20, 1908. He was a Republican in politics, but though always interested in public affairs, he avoided accepting public office. In religion he was a Presbyterian. In March, 1857, he was married to Elizabeth McMillan, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth McMillan, of Trimbelle township. This union was blessed with three daughters and two sons—Howard S. and Robert R. are noted below; Grace A. died June, 1888, at the Battle Creek Sanitarium, Michigan; Elizabeth S. married William Gray, of Big River, Wis., both she and her husband being now deceased. They are survived by two sons and two daughters—Ella Gray, James Gray, Grace Gray and William Gray, of Traverse county, Minnesota. Mary R. married V. A. Bunce, of Trimbelle township.

**Howard S. Staples** was born in River Falls township, December 22, 1857, and educated in the district schools. From 1876 to 1878 he attended the Normal School at River Falls and then purchased a farm on section 28, River Falls township, where he has since resided. He is associated with his brother in general farming and stock raising and owns forty acres in River Falls township and 160 acres in Rusk county, Wisconsin, which latter he rents. He is a Prohibitionist in politics, in religious belief a Christian Scientist.

**Robert R. Staples** was born in River Falls township, November 29, 1859, was educated in the public schools and remained at home until he purchased a farm on section 27, where he now resides with Mr. and Mrs. V. A. Bunce. He owns 122 acres of land, thirty head of cattle, eighty head of sheep and thirty hogs. He does some grain raising, sowing about fifty acres each year. He is a Prohibitionist in politics and attends the Presbyterian church.

**Ransom S. Wilcox** resides on section 23, River Falls township, where he owns and operates 120 acres of fine land. He was

born in St. Lawrence county, New York, February 21, 1840, attended the district schools and assisted his father on the farm. In the spring of 1862 he moved to River Falls, and after working on various farms for some time purchased a farm on section 13, where he lived eighteen years, subsequently purchasing his present farm where he has resided since 1889, being engaged in stock raising and general farming. He has built a fine dwelling and other buildings to shelter his stock and grain. He has a record of forty-seven years' residence in Pierce county and during that time has been regarded as a leading citizen and successful farmer. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Wilcox was married to Celia Chapin, a native of New York state, daughter of Albert and Sylvia Chapin, who came to River Falls township when their daughter was but sixteen years of age. The father is dead and the mother still resides with Mr. Wilcox, being eighty-four years of age. Mrs. Wilcox passed away in March, 1908, at the age of fifty-eight years, and was laid at rest in the River Falls Cemetery. She was the mother of seven children, born in the order named. Chauncey, a farmer of River Falls township, married Emma Ellis, daughter of J. W. Ellis, and has two children, Hattie and Opal. Walter is a farmer in River Falls township, married to Ada Hurst, by whom he has one son, Charles. Albert, residing in the same township, married Candace Deming and has one child, Lyle. Hattie is the wife of Emil Johnson, a farmer of River Falls township. Lydia is the wife of Lewis Dopkins, of River Falls township, and has one child, Leslie. Lee and Elwood are at home and assist in farming on the old place.

**Samuel Wesley Williams** was born in Alleghany county, New York, May 23, 1832, son of Davison and Frances (Boylan) Williams and grandson of Simon and Ann Williams, early settlers of Kinnickinnic township, St. Croix county. Davison Williams was a native of Herkimer county, New York. He was christened by Dominee Spinner, father of the Hon. Frank Spinner, United States secretary of the treasury during the Civil war. In 1820 Davison moved to Alleghany county, New York; in 1833 to Carroll county, Indiana; in 1851 to Rockton, Winnebago county, Illinois, and in 1854 to Kinnickinnic township, St. Croix county, where he was postmaster from 1854 to 1875, passing away December 18, 1887. He was married October 15, 1829, at Burns, N. Y., to Frances Boylan, born in New York state, August 5, 1813, and died in Indiana, June 22, 1850. Their children follows: John, born August 9, 1830; Samuel, the subject of this sketch; John Simon, born April 13, 1838, and died February 6, 1848; George D., born December 4, 1840, and died January 22, 1841; Helen, born August 9, 1830, and died September 6, 1838; James

Harris, born February 4, 1847. Samuel W. received his education in the common schools and then engaged in farming in Indiana, later moving to Wisconsin, settling in Kinnickinnic township in the spring of 1855. He rapidly rose in prominence in the township, becoming one of the influential men of this vicinity. A Republican in politics, he occupied many prominent offices, being on the town board and serving many terms as town clerk. He belonged to the Masons, joining first at Hudson and then being transferred to the River Falls lodge when that village grew large enough to support one. At the time of his death he owned 160 acres of land on section 14, Kinnickinnic township. Samuel W. Williams passed away on the old homestead December 23, 1897. For a year after his death his widow continued to reside on the home farm, then removing to the village of River Falls, where she now resides. Her daughter, Frances E., lives with her. The other daughter, Cora May, died in infancy. Before her marriage, which occurred November 23, 1853, at Wayne, Wis., Mrs. Williams was Amanda Hurlbert. She was born in Johnson, Lamoile county, Vermont, in 1835, daughter of Asahel and Samantha (Carpenter) Hurlbert, the former born in Littleton, N. H. Samantha was the daughter of William and Polly (Bacon) Carpenter, the former of whom was born April 3, 1767, and died November 14, 1854, at Strafford, Vt., and the latter of whom was born March 5, 1769, and died March 4, 1860, at Strafford, Vt. Their marriage, which occurred at Woodstock, Conn., February 23, 1791, resulted in the following children: Betsy, born December 15, 1791; Parker, born January 24, 1794; Ephriam, born February 5, 1796; Harvey, born December 19, 1798; John, born November 25, 1800; Mary, born March 14, 1803; Willard; Joseph, born March 29, 1805; Samantha, born March 12, 1807; Lucia, born March 6, 1810; Lucius, born March 6, 1810, and Alvin, born July 17, 1812. All of the children, twelve in number, were raised on the home farm, where they were born, in Strafford, Vt. Willard and Polly Carpenter were among the early settlers of the town of Strafford, Vt., where they emigrated in the early days. They had 118 lineal descendents at the time of their deaths—twelve children, fifty-eight grandchildren, fifty-three great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. Mr. Williams wife's uncle on her mother's side was named Willard Carpenter, after his father. He spent his early life on a farm and from digging and selling sarsaparilla he became one of the wealthy citizens of Indiana. He was interested in the building of the Erie canal, and one of his acts of benevolence was the gift of the Willard Carpenter Library at Evansville, Ind., valued at $100,000. Willard's brother was named Alvin B. Carpenter. He married Almira Deutcher at

Troy, N. Y., July 5, 1839, and had the following children: James M., born November 3, 1840, at Evansville, Ind.; Mary A., born June 9, 1842, at New Orleans, La.; Hattie A., born March 8, 1847, at Beloit, Wis.; Annie B., born July 29, 1849, at Beloit, Wis.; Addie, born October 4, 1851, same place; Corselia, born August 23, 1853, same place. Mary A. Carpenter was married to Alonzo A. Green in October of 1861 and had two children: Lulu, born July 10, 1863, and Florence, born June 24, 1866. James M. Carpenter married Hattie G. Root at Mohawk, N. Y., October 6, 1864, and her death occurred at Beloit, Wis., August 27, 1865, he was married at Evansville, Ind., December 23, 1869, to Louisa Ingle, by whom he had Albin, born December 23, 1870, and Ingle, born April 17, 1872.

## CHAPTER XXXIX.

**Rock Elm Township—Salem Township—Spring Lake Township —Spring Valley Village—Trenton Township—Hager City— Trim Belle Township—Union Township—Plum City Village —History Early Days—Business Progress—Crops and Stock —Biography.**

Rock Elm was organized November 16, 1866, with Sylvester Fox as chairman of the first board. Mr. Fox, Loomis Kellogg and Charles A. Hawn were perhaps the earliest settlers in Rock Elm. In 1907 there were 550 head of horses in Rock Elm township; 1,618 head of neat cattle; 2,462 head of sheep and lambs, and 705 head of swine. The growing crops were distributed in acreage as follows: Wheat, 25; corn, 1,260; oats, 2,472; barley, 916; rye, 35; flax, 13. The production of the year before in bushels was as follows: Wheat, 285; corn, 38,430; oats, 82,805; barley, 27,834; rye, 340; flaxseed, 303; potatoes, 4,905, and apples, 123 bushels; 2,220 tons of tame hay was harvested; 27,225 pounds of butter was churned by the housewives of Rock Elm, for which they received $5,000.

**William Orville Fedderly** was born in 1838 in New York state, grandson of Daniel Fedderly, a veteran of the War of 1812 and son of James and Jane (Emmons) Fedderly. The former was born in 1810 in Herkimer county, New York, and came to Wisconsin in 1847, settling in York, Dane county, where he remained until his death in 1884. Jane Emmons was born in 1817 in New York and died in 1890. William O. received his early education in Beaver Dam, Dodge county, Wis. When twenty-one years of age he started in life for himself and taught school for nine terms, farming summers. Subsequently, until the time when he retired, he devoted his entire life to farming. He came to Pierce county in 1873 and settled on what is now the old home farm, section 11, Rock Elm township. At first he had but 160 acres, but his industry, thrift and perseverance have been such that he has increased his farm to 320 acres of rich land, all of which is well cultivated and well cared for, the farm buildings being especially good. Mr. Fedderly is a Republican in politics, having cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln for President of the United States. He has been on the side board and for two years served as chairman of the township. He has

been a delegate to state conventions a number of times and has filled all the school offices many terms. Mr. Fedderly was married in 1860 to Mary L. Mellen, born in Rochester, N. Y., in 1840, but a resident of Columbus, Wis., at the time of her marriage. This union has been blessed with eight children—Jennie L., Mary Ella, Andrew Orville and William Ernest, all deceased; Cara Belle is married to Sebastion Weix; Nora Alla, now Mrs. Edward Skeel; Charles I. and Hattie I., now Mrs. F. F. Drake; Charles I. is married and lives on the home farm.

**Albert Holcomb** was born in Herman, Dodge county, Wis., April 16, 1850, son of Levi and Angeline (Rathbone) Holcomb, the former of whom was born in 1812 and died in 1892, and the latter of whom was born in 1818 and died in 1883. Both first saw the light of day in New York state and passed away in Rock Elm township, Pierce county, Wis. They settled here in 1868 and were the parents of four boys—Aaron died during the Civil war, in which he participated; Asa, after living forty years at Appleton, Wis., now resides in Oregon; Albert is the subject of this sketch; Alfred, his twin brother, lives in Gilman township, Pierce county. He was married in 1888 and his wife passed away in 1896. Albert received his education in the town of Rubicon, Dodge county, to which he was taken by his parents at the early age of four years. At twenty-two years of age he started out for himself and in 1872 purchased eighty acres on section 7, Rock Elm township, from the railroad. He has since that date added 40 acres more on section 8. He carries on general farming and stock raising and is meeting with considerable success, being a good farmer and an honest and esteemed citizen. Mr. Holcomb was married in 1878 to Matilda Abais, born in 1859, a native of Waukesha county, Wisconsin, who came to Pierce county with her parents while still a young girl. This union was blessed with five children. One died in infancy without being named. Georgia was born in 1880 and died in 1882. Alvin was born in 1884; Stella was born in 1886 and married Edward Fisher, of Rock Elm township; Chester, born in 1888, lives on the old home farm and assists his parents.

**David Rice** was born in Florence, Oneida county, N. Y., in 1829, son of Daniel and Martha (Crawford) Rice. The former was born in Vermont in 1809 and died in Florence, N. Y., in 1891, and the latter was born in 1809 in New York state and died in 1874 in Florence, N. Y. David received his education in the common schools of New York and emigrated to Wisconsin in 1856. In early life he was a cooper, but upon coming to Pierce county in October, 1867, he farmed eighty acres in section 15, Rock Elm township, now residing on section 17. He is a member of the Methodist church and in politics a Republican, having

served as assessor three years, side supervisor two years and township treasurer ten years. In 1862 he enlisted in the Union army, serving three years under General Grant. With his comrades of Company I, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, he took part in no less than thirty-two skirmishes and battles. He was at Champion Hills and at Vicksburg for forty-seven days; also at Mobile and numerous other places, receiving his discharge June 27, 1865. Mr. Rice was married, December 30, 1852, to Nancy Young, born in Montgomery, N. Y., a resident of Florence, N. Y., at the time of her marriage. This union has been blessed with eight children—Alice, Mary and Florence are deceased; Arthur and Francis reside in Rock Elm township; Linnie lives on section 15 in the same township, and James lives on the old homestead, Martha being in Colorado.

**Ira J. Smith** is a native of Rutland, Vt., born April 19, 1838, son of John and Caroline (Taylor) Smith, the former of whom was born in Massachusetts in 1814 and died in Oneida county, Wisconsin, in 1902. The grandfather, Thomas Smith, and the great-grandfather, Israel Smith, both served in the Revolution, the latter being one of the heroes of Bunker Hill. John and Caroline Smith were the parents of seven children, four of whom died in infancy. Edward T. lives in Oregon; George W. resides at Tomahawk, Lincoln county, and Ira J. is the subject of this sketch. Ira J. spent ten years in his native state and then came westward with his father, settling in Dodge county, this state, until twenty-nine years of age. His education was received in the schools of the Green Mountain state and in Wisconsin. At the age of twenty he started in life for himself and in 1868 came to this county. He is now stock raiser on a large scale, breeding large numbers of hogs and sheep. A Republican in politics, he has been chairman of his township for seven years. For the unusually long period of twenty-two years he was one of the county poor commissioners, and also served as president of the Highland Telephone Company. He is a man of able attainments and good character—one who would scorn to stoop to a mean act. Mr. Smith was married in 1861 to Hattie A., daughter of Daniel and Mary Lawrence, born in Wyanoskee, Vt., in 1835, and died in 1898. She was the mother of seven children—Irene H. lives at home; Ira E. lives in Oneida county, this state, being a farmer and lumberman; George E. is at home; Charles lives and farms in Eau Galle township, this state; Willis H. was born in 1867 and died in 1881; John L. is at home, and Maude J. married W. L. Smith and lives in Eau Galle, Dunn county, this state. All are prosperous and respected residents of their respective communities.

**John W. Springstead** was born March 26, 1836, at Rochester, N. Y., son of Augustus and Sarah (Hopper) Springstead and grandson of Henry Hopper, who died in 1841, and Augustus Springstead, who died in 1830. The father was born in 1810 and died in 1885, and the mother was born in 1815 and died in 1897. They both first saw the light of day in New York state and died in Waukesha county, Wisconsin. Of their seventeen children, only two survive—Bathseka, born in 1838, who now lives in Milwaukee, and the other, John W., is the subject of this sketch. John W. received his early education in the schools of Brookfield, Waukesha county, Wis., at the age of twelve years, starting in life for himself. He has devoted his entire career to farming with the exception of the time he spent in the Union army. He enlisted in 1862 in Company A, Thirty-fourth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. After the war he returned to Waukesha county and in 1868 came to Rock Elm township. He owns eighty acres of good land on section 5. Mr. Springstead is a Republican in politics, having been school clerk for several years, as well as occupying all the other school offices for a considerable period. He is a member of the Freewill Baptist church. He was married in 1859 to Sarah E. McNeal, who died in 1893. She had three children—one died in infancy; Alice J. was born in 1875 and is the wife of Charles Yauch, of Olivet, Wis.; Herbert was born in 1879 and died the same year. In 1894 Mr. Springstead married Mrs. Van Schoonovan.

## SALEM TOWNSHIP.

Salem Township was created January 13, 1862, with C. C. Carpenter, Eben White and J. H. Shults as the supervisors. The first school house was constructed in 1857 and conducted by Thompson McCleary. The first marriage was that of Harvey Seeley and Kate McKinstry. The first settlers were Jeremiah Fuller and W. Wells, who came to Salem in 1846. The first white child born in Salem was Sarah Fuller. The first death was the demise of John McCleary, who died September 2, 1863. The first postoffice was established at Rush River in May, 1860, with Joseph Seeley as postmaster. Among the early settlers Harvey Seeley, Thomas Boyle, James White, John F. Davis, afterward town clerk for twenty years; John H. Brasington, Eben White, James Walsingham, John Strong, H. M. Hicks, John Foley, James H. Shults, H. C. Brown, John McClure, C. C. Carpenter and Ira W. Carpenter. Salem township had 485 head of horses within her boundaries in 1907; 1,847 head of cattle; 1,471 sheep, and 848 head of hogs. The number of acres devoted to growing crops that year was distributed among the principal crops as follows: Wheat, 217; corn, 1,659; oats, 1,709; barley, 983; rye,

219; potatoes, 64, and apple orchards, 57, with 1,146 bearing trees. The yield of small grain of the previous year was: Wheat, 3,237 bushels; corn, 44,440; oats, 55,448; barley, 31,552; rye, 3,287; flaxseed, 22, and potatoes, 6,211; beans, 16 bushels, and apples, 488 bushels; 2,800 tons of hay was produced, and 7,650 pounds of tobacco; 14,195 pounds of butter was marketed, valued at $1,824.

## SPRING LAKE TOWNSHIP.

Spring Lake township occupies the extreme northeastern part of Pierce county and was organized November 10, 1868, when the first town meeting was held at the residence of A. M. Wilcox. The first board of supervisors were: W. D. Akers, chairman, Jonas Webb and Levi Hess. The first school was opened in 1866 by Agnes Harriman. The first wedding to take place in the township was that of H. M. Wilcox and Mrs. Kate Rice, of Lake City. The ceremony was performed by W. D. Akers as the first justice of the peace. The first white child born in Spring Lake was a daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Ole P. Gardner. The first death was that of Leota Wilcox in 1864. The earliest settlers in the order of their arrival were: James Gilmore, Ole P. Gardner, George Wilcox, John Francisco and W. D. Akers. The town of Spring Lake had 464 head of horses in 1907; 2,141 head of cattle; 2,346 sheep and lambs, and 507 hogs.

The growing crops during the same year in acreage were: Wheat, 106 acres; corn, 608; oats, 1,747; barley, 358; flax, 13; potatoes, 34; 1,592 acres was in hay. The crop yield in 1906 was: Wheat, 1,297 bushels; corn, 18,673; oats, 66,680; barley, 10,742; flax, 272, and potatoes, 3,029; 136 bushels of apples was gathered and 82 tons of sugar beets produced. The hay crop was 2,823 tons. Only 700 pounds of butter was manufactured.

**William P. Beardsley,** one of the progressive farmers of this locality, living on section 31, Spring Lake township, where he owns eighty acres of rich and well cultivated land, was born in Spring Lake township in what is now Elmwood, June 16, 1871, son of Charles and Margaret (Howard) Beardsley, the former of whom was born in New York state, June 10, 1841, and died in Spring Lake township, June 12, 1888, having been a farmer all his life, and the latter of whom was born in 1855 near Peoria, Ill., and is now residing in Elmwood, Wis. Upon coming to Pierce county Charles Beardsley bought eighty acres of land in Spring Lake township, upon which he moved January 6, 1879. Shortly after William's birth he was taken to Minnesota, where he spent his babyhood, returning to Wisconsin in 1879, and receiving his education in the schools of Spring Lake township. He then took up farming, worked out for two years and then

started work for himself, which he has since continued with marked success. Mr. Beardsley was married in 1890 to Susan Smith, daughter of Jacob H. and Catharine (Buser) Smith. This union has been blessed with two children—Myrnie, born September 5, 1892, and Charles, born January 31, 1895. Mr. Beardsley votes the Republican ticket and is highly regarded by all who know him.

**E. R. Blaisdell** was born in Diamond Bluff township, this county, in 1868, son of Elijah and Jennie (Wilson) Blaisdell. The former was born in Galena, Ill., in 1845, and had the honor of attending school with the daughter of Gen. U. S. Grant. In 1861 he moved to Diamond Bluff township, and about this time enlisted in the war, serving in a number of important engagements. Returning he moved his family to Missouri, after eight years returning to Rock Elm township, this county, and residing twelve years, then in 1894 coming to Spring Valley, where he continued to live. E. R. moved to Missouri with his parents wnen four years of age. He received his education in Rock Elm township and in 1888 came to Spring Lake township, where he has since resided with the exception of four years, which were spent in California and Oregon. He engaged in farming until about twelve years ago, when he embarked in the livery business. In 1900 he came to Elmwood and built the first livery stable in the village. For several years he continued this business, combining it with lumbering, which latter industry he still follows. He also owns a farm of 120 acres in section 3, Rock Elm township. He is a Republican in politics, a director of the Elmwood schools, a member of the village board and a communicant of the Methodist church. Mr. Blaisdell was married in 1894 to Rose Knott, by whom he has four children—Ida, Merle, Margery and Elmry. Mrs. Blaisdell is the daughter of William Knott, a farmer of Diamond Bluff township, this county. Her mother's name was Hutchins. The four children are graduates of the Elmwood public schools.

**Sylvester M. Cooke** was born in 1849 near Rock Island, Ill., son of Asaph and Louisa (Webber) Cooke. The grandfather, also named Asaph Cooke, was born March 8, 1748, and was married June 17, 1776, by which union there were twelve children, of whom Asaph, father of Sylvester, was the oldest. He took part in the Battle of Lexington and participated in other engagements of the Revolutionary war. The father, Asaph, was born in the state of New York in 1801, following farming all his life. He moved to Pepin county, this state, in the spring of 1856, staying for eight years, and then moving to Pierce county and settling in Rock Elm township. He passed away in the latter township December 28, 1868. His wife, Louisa Webber, was

born in the state of Maine, dying in Rock Elm township in 1880. Her parents came of old Maine stock, both having been born in that state. Asaph and Louisa Cooke were the parents of twelve children, as follows: Asaph (the third of that name) was born December 25, 1834, and died September 13, 1835; George was born November 11, 1837, and died July 23, 1843; Mary was born May 10, 1829, married Lanford Campbell, and lived in Illinois and Wisconsin, passing away at Ellsworth, this county, in 1907; John was born in 1841, enlisted in the First Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, later being transferred to the Twenty-first Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was with Sherman on his famous march to the sea and died from the effects of that campaign at Savannah in 1864; Julia was born in 1831, married first to Nelson Moser, and upon his decease to Edward Philpps in 1851. She died in 1900. Christiana was born in 1843, married Henry Doughty and resides in Durand, Pepin county, this state. Mr. Doughty was a cabinet maker, but was totally disabled in the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Doughty in July, 1907, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary, the occasion being one that will never be forgotten by the large number of friends present. Charles was born in 1847 and died in 1899; Sylvester is the subject of this sketch; Flavia was born June 12, 1851, married O. P. Whipp, now deceased, and resides in the village of River Falls, this county. Sylvester received his early education in Pepin county at Frankford. After reaching the age of twenty-one years he attended school for a time at Rock Elm, this county. He then taught school for eighteen years in Rock Elm, afterward farming for some time. In 1891 he removed to his present location at Olivet, in Spring Lake township. He now owns the old home farm of eighty acres in section 10, Rock Elm township. A Republican in politics, from 1889 to 1891 he served as clerk of the court. For seven years he was clerk of Rock Elm township and occupied a similar position in Spring Lake township for about the same length of time. He was chairman of the town board for one year. In local affairs Mr. Cooke is a staunch Prohibitionist, and is also a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Cooke was married in 1877 to Clara Condit, a resident of Rock Elm township until the time of her marriage. She was the daughter of William and Margaret (Hager) Condit. By this union there have been four children—two living and two dead. The deceased were twins, buried in Rock Elm township. The living are Carl, born in 1879, a farmer of Spring Lake township, and Ray, born in 1889, who now resides at home.

**Orin W. Groot** was born in Brookfield, Milwaukee county, Wis., in 1859, son of Robert S. Groot, born in New York state in

July, 1826. Robert S. was one of the pioneers of this state. He came here in the early days and was a veteran both of the Civil and Mexican wars. His wife, whose maiden name was Wells, died in 1864 when young Orin W. was still a young lad. Orin W. received the larger part of his education in the common schools of Rock Elm township, Pierce county, to which place his father moved in 1868. In 1878 Orin started out in life for himself and went to Polk county, remaining five years doing farming work. Upon his return to Rock Elm township he worked on a farm for one summer, then entering the store of Sylvester Fox, remaining for four years and thoroughly mastering the details of the mercantile business. In 1892 he came to Elmwood, where he had since remained. For some years previous to this he has conducted a store in what is now called Old Elmwood. Upon coming here he built a store which was opened in August, 1902. He now runs this store, handling a large stock of goods and commanding a fine trade for miles around. He is a progressive business man, interested in everything that tends for the good of the community. A Republican in politics, he has been postmaster eight years, is now mayor of the village, serving his second year, and has been both school clerk and school director, the former for six years and the latter for two years. He is president of the First State Bank of Elmwood. Mr. Groot was married in 1892 to Julia L. Young, daughter of John G. Young and Amelia Young, by whom he has three children, as follows: Bernice, Wayne and Carol.

**William N. Howard** was born in Illinois in 1830, near Highlands, in Madison county, son of John and Nancy (East) Howard, the former of whom, a hero of the Black Hawk war, was born in Tennessee in 1812, dying in 1849, February 1, and the latter of whom first saw the light of day in 1808 and passed away in 1878. The grandfather, Abraham Howard, was born in England in 1768 and settled in North Carolina, thence to Tennessee and still later moving to Illinois, ending his days in 1878 at Vandalia, in the latter state, having been a prosperous merchant. William N. received a limited education of a few months in the district schools, but his good sense and memory have given him a command of practical subjects such as many persons of considerable more school advantages do not possess. He settled in this township in 1851, remaining until 1871, when he came to Spring Lake township, purchasing a farm of 160 acres in section 36. Mr. Howard was married in 1851 to Fanny Gosset, born in Franklin county, Illinois, in 1837, daughter of James and Lucy (Hill) Gosset, both natives of Tennessee. By this union there were five children, two of whom are living. Margaret resides in Elmwood and Lilly Dell lives in Rush county,

both in this state. The other three died in infancy. The subject of this sketch is a Democrat in politics, was justice of the peace sixteen years, deputy sheriff two years and district clerk of schools ten years. All these offices he filled with dignity and ability, greatly to the satisfaction of his fellow citizens.

**Ole Peterson** was born in Norway, August 3, 1852, and upon coming to this country with his parents located in Eau Claire, Wis., in 1866. July 22, 1877, he was married to Anne Hanson, born in Norway, February 24, 1844. Mr. Peterson came to Pierce county in the fall of 1877, and lives on his farm in Spring Lake township. He is the father of four children, three sons and one daughter, all born in Pierce county.

**Harvey M. Preston, Sr.**, was born near Lockport, Niagara county, N. Y., in 1840, son of William and Abigal (Eaton) Preston. The father was born in New York state, March 4, 1822, and died January 16, 1890, being a cooper, at which trade he and his son, Harvey, worked for some time together. He enlisted in Company K, Sixth California Volunteer Infantry, in 1862, and served twenty months until discharged for disability. His wife was born in New York state, November 24, 1822, and died September 6, 1873. Both deaths occurred in Pierce county, William passing away in Trim Belle township and Abigal going to her eternal reward from Ellsworth. They were married March 10, 1840, and had five children, the four who lived to maturity having added lustre to the family name. George, the first born, died in infancy at the age of ten months. Rachel R., born in 1842, was married in 1857 to Ephriam Moore, of New York state, who died in 1902 at the age of seventy-four years. She raised a family of eleven children at Eau Galle, Wis., her present residence being at Blain, Wash. Horace R. was born in 1844 and for six years was a resident of River Falls, Wis. He now lives in Blain, Wash., and is a farmer by occupation. He has been married four times. Eunice was born March 20, 1850, and in 1866 married Welman Ouderkirk, formerly of Knox county, Illinois, but now a farmer of Franklin, Franklin county, Neb. They have four children living. The subject of this sketch obtained his early education at Beloit, Rock county, Wis., where he went with his parents in 1845. March 17, 1862, he enlisted in the Tenth Wisconsin Light Artillery and served under Capt. Yates C. Beebe, participating in nine general engagements and fifty-four skirmishes, also accompanying Sherman on his march to the sea. He was discharged at Madison, Wis., April 20, 1865. In the fall of that year he moved to Ellsworth, Pierce county, remaining there until 1873; first engaged in the cooper business and later running a feed store. In 1873 he went to Trim Belle township. His parents followed him there the next winter. His

next location was at Spring Lake township, where in 1875 he built a sawmill, the first in that township, running the same thirteen years. He then sold out and moved to section 5, Spring Lake township, purchasing a farm of 200 acres, upon which he has carried on general farming and stock raising with much success and where he still resides. A Republican in politics, he was town clerk four years, treasurer one year, justice of the peace three terms and school clerk eighteen years. Mr. Preston was married July 15, 1865, in Eau Galle, Wis., to Mary H. Green, born in Pennsylvania, February 11, 1850, daughter of George and Irene (Dickey) Green, the former born in Maine in 1812 and died in 1874, and the latter born in the same state in the same year, dying in 1892. They were married in 1840 and had six children. George, Jr., is dead. John was color bearer for Company K, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was killed on the field of battle, having both legs shot off at Rappahannock Station. William was killed at Petersburg in 1864. Maria is dead; Mary is Mrs. Preston, and Margaret married Philip Butler. She has six children and resides in St. Croix county, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Preston have been blessed with nine children. William J., born in 1867, lives in St. Croix county. He is a rural carrier, married Ada Bailey, January 5, 1891, and has three children—Eva, Florence and Eunice. Reuben E., born January 31, 1870, was married December 29, 1892, to Laura Upman. On February 11, 1897, he married Viola Larrieu, a resident of Cady township, in St. Croix county. He is a rural carrier, lives on the old homestead in a house next to that of his father, and has two sons, Harry and Kenneth. Newman E. was born April 8, 1872, and in 1898 married Luella Hunter, a resident of Spring Valley village, by whom he has three children—Horace, Leo and Minard. Clifford E. was born May 23, 1875, and died August 25, 1902. Walter was born October 24, 1877, and married Mary Hoganson, September 26, 1898, by whom he has three children—Hazel, Ruby and Laura. He is a rural carrier and resides at Spring Valley. George M. was born December 29, 1879, and is now in Michigan. Eunice M., born October 8, 1882, was married August 5, 1903, to Charles Brown. She has two children—Harvey M., Jr., was born August 22, 1886, and lives on the home place. H. M. Preston, Sr., is a grandchild on his mother's side of Samuel and Rebecca (Thompson) Eaton, the former born October 18, 1777, and the latter August 17, 1781. They were married August 29, 1802, and had the following children: Roxa, born May 8, 1803; Rebecca, born October 3, 1804; Sydney, born October 14, 1806; Polly, born April 20, 1808; Rodney, born September 18, 1810; Delilah, born February 15, 1813; Rachel, born May 23, 1815; Hannah, born October 19, 1817, and

Eunice, born March 20, 1820, and died in 1908. Abigail, born November 24, 1822, and died in 1873. The uncle of the wife of our subject was for forty successive years a member of the legislature of Maine. He died recently, holding that office at the time of his death.

**Gilbert Waller** was born in Norway in 1846, son of Ole and Caroline (Hanson) Waller, the former of whom was born in 1814 and died in 1898, and the latter of whom was born in 1820 and died in 1894. They came to the United States in 1869 and settled on section 6, Spring Lake township, where they ended their days.

Gilbert came to the United States in 1866, stayed for a time in Rock and Lafayette counties and then purchased eighty acres of land in this township, which he still owns. He now carries on general farming and stock raising, owning in all 170 acres of good land. Mr. Waller is a quiet, unassuming man, and is greatly liked by all who know him. He served several years on the town board and one term on the county board. In 1877 he was married to Isabel Torgerson, born in Norway in 1852. This union has been blessed with eight children, seven of whom are living. They are: Oscar, living at Denver, Col.; Cora, Ida, Jessie, Theodore, Helmer and Emma, all living at home at present. Mr. Waller has three brothers and one sister. Hans lives in Trempealeau county, Wisconsin; Ole lives with Gilbert; the whereabouts of Christ are not known, and Mattie, the sister, died in Norway while still a little girl.

## SPRING VALLEY.

Spring Valley is one of the enterprising incorporated villages of Pierce county, having a population of about 1,100 people. It is situated on a branch of the C., St. P., M. & O. R. R., and is twenty-one miles northeast of the county seat. Among its features are water works, electric lights, first-class hotels, substantial business blocks, modern stores, grain elevators, feed mills, a brick yard, a lumber yard, two modern school houses built of brick and many comfortable residences. The village also has Catholic, Congregational and Lutheran churches and a number of fraternal societies. The three leading manufacturing plants are the Spring Valley Iron & Ore Company, which has mines near the village, together with a furnace that has a capacity of 150 tons a day; the Spring Valley Stave & Heading Company, which employs a number of men, and the Spring Valley Iron Works Company, which has a machine shop one block from the depot and makes iron and brass castings and does some engine work. The officers of the village are as follows: President, Otto Sieberns; clerk, Ed L. Burghardt; attorney, Thomas

M. Casey; treasurer, F. Bahr; fire chief, George Fox; chief of police, Sam Mars; assessor, Ira Niles; health officer, H. P. Conway, M. D.; justice of the peace, H. B. Bliesner; superintendent of schools, C. J. Hill; postmaster, F. A. Johnson; trustees, Andy Johnson, A. F. Anderson, J. R. Armstrong, Isaac Isaacson, H. P. Conway and F. B. Campbell.

**Elijah Blaisdell,** now leading a retired life at Spring Valley, is a native of St. Louis, Mo., born December 30, 1842, moving with his parents to Galena, Ill., when he was about five years of age. He remained there until 1854, when he came to Prescott, this county, with his parents, and here Abner Blaisdell, father of Elijah, started a general store, continuing that business for some eight years. They then moved to Diamond Bluff, in this county, and there the father kept both a general store and hotel, remaining there until the time of his death in 1875 at the age of about eighty years. Elijah attended school at Prescott and Diamond Bluff and was still a youth when the Civil war broke out. In 1861 he enlisted in Company A, Twelfth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war, taking part in all the engagements in which his regiment participated. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea. He received his discharge at Louisville, Ky., and then returned to Diamond Bluff, this county, and took up farming, also running a wood boat on the Mississippi. He purchased a small farm in Diamond Bluff and in 1871 he moved to Crawford county, Missouri, where he purchased eighty acres, remaining until 1875, when he returned to Pierce county and acquired a farm of 120 acres in Rock Elm township. He lived on this farm for a short time and then, selling out, he purchased another farm of sixty-five acres in the same township near the village of Rock Elm. After engaging in farming for a number of years he sold the place and bought eighty acres on Cady Creek, in Spring Lake township, living there seven years. In 1891 he moved to Spring Valley, where he has since resided, living a retired life. Mr. Blaisdell was married May 5, 1867, to Clarissa J. Willson, born in Clinton county, Ia., in 1849, coming to Minnesota with her parents when she was five years of age. She was the daughter of Daniel B. and Mary (Atherton) Willson, who came to Diamond Bluff, this county, in 1866. The father was a minister of the Free Will Baptist church and also a physician, practicing medicine at Diamond Bluff for some years. In 1871 he moved to Rock Elm, same county, and remained there until his death, which occurred in 1899 at the age of about eighty-five years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Blaisdell five children were born, two of whom are living. Ernest R. resides at Elmwood, this county. He buys and sells timber for Frank Carter, of Menomonie, this state; also has a

farm in Spring Lake of 120 acres, which he rents. Ernest married Rosa Garlick and has four children—Ida, Elmer, Muriel and Margie. Bertha resides at home and is a dressmaker. Rose May died at eight years, and Martha and Edith died in infancy. Mr. Blaisdell is a member of the G. A. R.

**Henry B. Bliesner** is a native of this county, born in the township of Gilman, October 8, 1873, son of August F. and Karine (Olsen) Bliesner, early settlers of the township of Gilman, this county, where the father engaged in general farming and stock raising. The father was born in Germany in 1849 and came to the United States in 1866, farming at Oconomowoc, Wis., until 1872, when he came to Pierce county, where he has since resided. His wife died July 24, 1903. He owns eighty acres of well improved land, section 10, Gilman township, which he cleared and broke himself. For many years he was chairman of the board of supervisors and was on the side board for a considerable period of time. Henry B. received his education in the district schools of his native township and at the River Falls Normal School, remaining at home until about eighteen years of age. He spent two years in a furniture store at Ellsworth, this county, and then in 1899 came to Spring Valley, where he has since been engaged. His first position was that of bookkeeper for Tanberg Brothers in the grain, lumber and implement business for some years, until 1904, when he became bookkeeper for the present firm of Logan-Sieberns Company. In 1907 he became a member of the firm. The elevator owned by this company is the first one erected in Spring Valley and the business is quite extensive, covering a wide area. Mr. Bliesner is a member of the Lutheran church and fraternizes with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Scandinavian Workmen's Association. Mr. Bliesner was married, October 16, 1901, to Julia Spooner, daughter of Chris and Christine (Johansen) Spooner, early settlers of Martell township. Mr. Spooner is still living at the age of about sixty years. His wife died on the farm in Martell, October 11, 1907, and Mr. Spooner then sold his place and moved to Eau Claire, this state, where he now resides. Mrs. Bliesner was educated in the district schools of her native township and lived at home until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Bliesner have been blessed with three children, two of whom are living. Myrtle died in infancy; Arnold S. was born November 28, 1903, at Spring Valley, and Gladys L. first saw the light of day in the same village, September 22, 1905.

**Edward L. Burghardt,** Spring Valley's hustling real estate and insurance business man, was born at Louisville, Ky., August 24, 1868, and lived there a short time, when he went with his parents to Boone, Ia., remaining until nine years of age. The

family next moved to Chicago, where young Edward obtained a liberal education in the high school at Englewood. His first employment after leaving school was with the American Exchange National Bank, at Chicago, where he worked his way up to the honored position of teller, remaining for four years. At Great Falls, Mont., where he next located, he engaged in the real estate and insurance business and for four or five years was assistant county treasurer of Cascade county, that state. After working for four years as head bookkeeper for the Boston & Montana Smelter Company he came to Wisconsin in the spring of 1900 and settled at Spring Valley, where he has since remained, doing a large real estate business and handling the local business for a number of the old line companies, having a fine office in the Masonic building. He is a member of Spring Valley, No. 262, F. & A. M., being one of its officers. He is a Republican in politics and at the present time holds the office of city clerk, having served in that capacity for the past five years, being also a member of the school board. Mr. Burghardt was married in Montana in 1891, April 21, to Ruby Baum, of New York state, in which state she attended the public schools, afterward graduating from a college at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. She is the mother of three children, all born in Montana—Ruth, born March 13, 1892, a student in the High School at Spring Valley; Mabel, born August 17, 1893, a student in the same school, and Irene, born April 1, 1895, also a school girl.

**Thomas M. Casey,** an attorney of Spring Valley, was born on a farm in Erin township, St. Croix county, this state, December 21, 1867, and received his early education in the district schools. After leaving the home farm he attended St. John's University, Minnesota, and from that institution entered the law department of the University of Wisconsin, graduating in 1893. He at once began the practice of his profession at New Richmond, this state, and continued until 1896, when he removed to Eau Claire and worked in the law office of T. F. Frawley. In 1900 he came to Spring Valley, where he has since practiced his profession, carrying on a general law business. Mr. Casey is a member of the Catholic church and a Democrat in politics. He was married in 1902, June 30, to Mary Helena Doherty, of St. Paul, Minn. She received her education in the St. Paul schools and the University of Minnesota. Mr. Casey's parents were Marcus and Bridget (Gavin) Casey, the former of whom was born in County Mayo, Ireland, and came to this country about 1851. He located at Providence, R. I., where he remained until the early fifties, when he came westward. Upon coming to this locality he settled on a farm in the township of Erin, St. Croix county. He continued to live in the same township and

purchased various farms at different times until he was the owner of 440 acres of well improved farm land. He died on the homestead, April 1, 1896. He was a member of the Catholic church, a prosperous and progressive farmer, held in high esteem by all who knew him and came in contact with him. His wife was born in County Roscommon, Ireland, and was brought to the United States by her parents while she was still a young child. She survived her husband a number of years, passing away at New Richmond in the spring of 1908, the date being May 9. She was survived by a number of children, all of whom, with the exception of the subject of this sketch, live in St. Croix county.

**Sylvester J. Fox** was born in Jefferson county, New York, December 3, 1831, son of George and Betsie (Cole) Fox, the father being also a native of New York state, farming in that commonwealth and farming and teaching in Canada until 1847, when he removed to Dodge county, this state, and engaged in agricultural pursuits, remaining there until the time of his death, he being killed in the cyclone of 1857. He was a man of lofty character and held many local offices, being also assemblyman for one term. His wife, Betsie, died when young Sylvester was but two years of age, and the father married again in Canada, his wife surviving him for a number of years. Sylvester spent his early childhood days in his native county and at the age of six years moved with his father to Oxford county, upper Canada, then coming to Dodge county and remaining on his father's farm until the time of the latter's death. In 1857 he was married to Julia White, also a native of New York state. In 1867 he brought his family to Pierce county and settled in the township of Rock Elm, purchasing a farm of 160 acres, which he cleared and improved, also engaging in the mercantile and lumbering business. He bought a sawmill, which he operated until 1872, his partner being C. A. Hawn. In 1872 they divided the business, Mr. Hawn taking the sawmill. Mr. Fox assumed the control of the store, which he continued to operate successfully for some years. About the year 1893 Mr. Fox sold the store and came to Spring Valley, bringing his stock of merchandise with him. He located in a desirable place, and the business has continued to grow, being now managed by himself and his son, George, the firm name being the S. J. Fox Company. Mr. Fox is a member of the Masonic order, Spring Valley Lodge, No. 262. He is an acute business man, honest to his customers and shrewd in his purchases, being well thought of by all who know him. Mr. and Mrs. Fox had seven children: Estella, wife of Simon Van Nortwick, died at the age of twenty-five years; Ida is the wife of Alfonson Abair, a business man of Palasaide, Col., hav-

ing two children, Effie and Vida; Mary is the wife of W. C. Condit, of Rock Elm, this state, and has one son, Ralph; Martha, twin sister to Mary, is the wife of Chester C. Keyser, a conductor of the branch railroad, and has two children, Ruth and Clark; Edward C. married Amelia Betterby and is engaged in the hardware business at Elm Wood, this state. George married Nellie Cunningham, and is engaged in business with his father, having two boys, Ralph and Harry. Elsie, the wife of William A. Collette, of Spring Valley, died at the age of twenty-eight years and left one child, George.

**John A. Martin,** a prominent citizen of Spring Valley, was born in Crawford county, Illinois, in the village of Palestine, July 8, 1853, and received his early education in the village of his birth, remaining there until nineteen years of age. He then came to Pierce county, this state, and settled in Spring Lake township. Remaining only one year, he returned to Illinois for three years and then came back to this county, again locating in Spring Lake township and purchasing eighty acres in section 10. He broke and improved the land and engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1898, when he moved to Spring Valley, where he has since resided. On his farm he erected a sawmill, which he has now run for four years. He taught school in Pierce county from 1876 until 1882 in the district schools and during the winter of 1876-77 he taught school at Spring Valley. Mr. Martin is a member of the Congregational church, being deacon of the Spring Valley church at the present time. A Republican in politics, he has been supervisor of the village of Spring Valley, and during his residence in Spring Lake he was chairman of that township for several years. At the present time he is a justice of the peace and has served as assessor for two terms. He is a member of the Masonic order, affiliating with Spring Valley Lodge, No. 262. Mr. Martin still retains his farm, but is now engaged in the real estate and lumber business in Sawyer county, this state, also handling insurance. Mr. Martin was married October 5, 1876, to Mary C. Stratton, daughter of Samuel and Mary (Mason) Stratton. This union has been blessed with four children—Harry Stratton, born August 16, 1877; D. Ray, born October 15, 1879; John E., born July 31, 1881, and Charles Richard, born April 19, 1889.

**Harvey B. Morrow,** practicing dentist of Spring Valley, was born in the township of River Falls, this county, June 1, 1874, and obtained his education in the district schools, the high and normal schools of River Falls, and the University of Cincinnati, in which latter institution he took the dental course and graduated in 1903. He then came to Spring Valley and took up the practice of dentistry, which he has since successfully conducted,

having his well equipped office in the Masonic Building. Dr. Morrow is a member of the Presbyterian church at River Falls and a Republican in politics. He is a Royal Arch Mason and also fraternizes with the Modern Woodmen of America, of Spring Valley. During his college career he identified himself with the Phi Alpha Chi, one of the Greek-letter fraternities. He was married April 2, 1908, to Nellie Taylor, of Spring Valley, a young woman of many accomplishments. Dr. Morrow is the son of Thomas D. and Agnes (McClure) Morrow, both born in Ireland. They came to the United States when they were scarcely more than children. The father settled in what is now called Big River, six miles south of River Falls, in 1854, thus being one of the earliest settlers of Pierce county. He bought 160 acres of government land, which he improved and where he made his home until his death, March 16, 1898. During his life he was engaged in general farming and stock raising. He was elder of the Presbyterian church at Big River for forty years or more. He was a prosperous and progressive man and held in high esteem by all who knew him. He was laid to rest in the Big River Cemetery. His widow is still living, residing at River Falls at the age of sixty-nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas D. Morrow were the parents of nine children—Samuel J. is in Macoon, Canada; John M. lives in Bowden, N. D.; Nettie is the wife of Frank Bliss, of River Falls; Esther is the wife of Jay E. Morgan, of Diamond Bluff, this state; Thomas D. lives in Denhoff, N. D.; Harvey, subject of this sketch; Arthur, of Bowden, N. D., and two others who died in infancy.

**Harry J. Park,** engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in Spring Valley, was born in the township of Trim Belle, this county, December 24, 1868, son of Jonathan and Christena (Fleming) Park. The father was born in England and the mother in Scotland. The former learned the trade of woodturner in England and when 21 years of age came to the United States. He stopped first at Lowell, Mass., where he followed his trade for some time, then working as a millwright in Cuba, still later doing practically all the turned wooden columns which are a feature of the court house at New Orleans, where he remained for a year. His next location was again at Lowell, Mass., subsequently working for a few years as millwright in the cotton mills, later becoming foreman of the turning department of the Mason & Hamlin Organ Company, of Cambridge, Mass., for about seven years. In 1866 he came to this county and settled in the township of Trim Belle, where he was in partnership with John Reeves in building a sawmill and furniture factory, which they operated for some years until 1872, when Mr. Park withdrew from the company and went back to Cambridge, Mass.,

working at his trade of wood turning until the spring of 1885, when he returned to this county, bringing with him the first veneer machine built that ever successfully cut thick veneering. This he operated in the township of Trenton, this county, and continued in the veneer business until 1899, when he retired and took up his residence at the village of Hager, in the township of Trenton, this county, where he has since made his home. He is a member of the Episcopal church and a Republican in politics, but never held or cared for political office. He was very public spirited, a good citizen and a generous neighbor. His wife came to the United States when about fourteen years of age. She was educated at Lowell, Mass., where she remained at home with her parents until her marriage. Harry received his education in the schools of Cambridge, Mass., where his parents moved when he was four years of age, remaining until he had completed his high school course. In 1885 he returned to Pierce county with his parents and worked with his father in the veneer business until 1890, when he became half owner in a veneer industry in the township of Union, this county, being associated with John Nelson, of Red Wing, Minn. This partnership continued until 1893, when Mr. Park sold out his interest and in 1898 came to Spring Valley and established his present business, which he has since conducted. His trade covers a radius of fifteen miles and is constantly increasing. He has a large double store on Main street, being especially well located. Mr. Park is a Republican in politics. In 1899 he was village clerk of Spring Valley and has been three times president of the village. He was a member of the Wisconsin legislature in 1900-01 from this district. He fraternizes with the Masonic order, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Elks, in all of which he is a popular member. Mr. Park was married July 3, 1893, to Stella Schultz, born in Steuben county, New York, who came to Pierce county when a small child, receiving her education here. She is the mother of four children—Walter, Christina, Jonathan and Jenette. The children were all born in this county and are all attending the village schools of Spring Valley, being as bright a lot of youngsters as will be found anywhere.

**Jacob H. Smith,** great-grandson of a Revolutionary veteran, was born in Pennsylvania, near Pittsburg, in 1832, son of Peter and Susan (Miller) Smith. The father was born in 1799, settled in Ohio in 1834 and then in 1852 removed to Owen county, Ind., where he died in 1878. His wife was born in Pennsylvania and died in Indiana. They were the parents of eight children—Jacob H. is the subject of this sketch; Margaret is Mrs. Livingston, of Downing, Wis., and Susan is Mrs. Wells, of Owen county, Indiana; John, Betsy, Peter, George and Lavina are de-

ceased. Jacob received his education in the subscription schools of Ohio and at the age of twenty years started out for himself. In early life he split rails for many years, then farmed it in both Indiana and Illinois, finally locating at Kady Creek, Spring Lake township, Pierce county, July 13, 1868, purchasing 240 acres on sections 23 and 24. In 1902 he sold out and removed to Elmwood, where he has since remained. A Democrat in politics, Mr. Smith was school treasurer of Kady Creek district for thirty years. In religion he is a Free Will Baptist. Mr. Smith was married in 1853 to Catharine Buzer, born October 23, 1833, daughter of Vernhart Buzer, a native of Germany who came to this country at sixteen years of age. Unto them were born thirteen children, five being deceased, and eight now living within three miles of Elmwood. Elizabeth is Mrs. Taplin; Susan married William Beardsley; Peter married Adeline Curtis; John married Ella Gibson; Jacob married Alta Howard; David married Emma Wagner; William married Alice Shaw; Nathaniel married Minda Krames; Samuel and Joseph are deceased; the other three not having been named.

**David L. White** was born in the township of Berkshire, Franklin county, Vt., April 9, 1840, and received his education there, remaining until seventeen years of age. He then came to Wisconsin and located in Waushara county, engaging in general work for a short time. After driving a team in Dodge county for a year he settled in Lafayette county, this state, and learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed until 1861, when he enlisted in Company H, Third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served from April 22, 1861, to August 19, 1865, receiving his discharge at Madison, Wis. Returning to Dodge county, he engaged three years in the sawmill business, subsequently coming to Pierce county with S. J. Fox and C. A. Hawn and settling at Rock Elm for some years, continuing the mill business. He also learned the trade of tinner and worked at that more or less for some time. He engaged in the hardware business in Rock Elm, and in 1884 when the store burned down he came to Spring Valley and continued the same business until about 1902, when he sold his building and business and retired, now taking his life at leisure after years of hard toil and industrious labor. He is a member of the G. A. R. at Spring Valley and also fraternizes with the Masonic order. Mr. White was married at Rock Elm in 1872 to Mary E. Willson, daughter of Dr. Daniel Willson, of whom mention is made in the sketch of Elijah Blaisdell, of this place, Mrs. Blaisdell being a sister of Mrs. White. Mr. and Mrs. White have seven children: Lydia, wife of T. R. Gore, a farmer of Rock Elm; Alta, wife of De Witt Peak, a Spring Lake township farmer; Nellie, wife of Charles White, of Hudson, this

state; Bessie, wife of Fred Wyatt, of Minneapolis; Vilas V., residing at home. The other two died in infancy. All the children first saw the light of day at Rock Elm, Pierce county, Wis.

## TRENTON TOWNSHIP.

The history of Trenton township begins with the date November 14, 1857, with James Akers as chairman of the board. The territory it occupies before that date was a part of the town of Diamond Bluff. The town of Trenton claimed 375 head of horses assessable in 1907; 1,293 head of neat cattle; 355 sheep and lambs, and 208 head of swine. The acreage of growing crops in 1907 was: Wheat, 380 acres; corn, 750; oats, 1,260; barley, 1,575; rye, 630; flax nothing, and potatoes 60 acres, also 10 acres in young apple orchards; 200 acres was in hay, and 500 acres planted to timber. The crop yield of the previous year was: Wheat, 5,000 bushels; corn, 23,000; oats, 29,000; barley, 58,000; rye, 10,000; potatoes, 14,000; clover, 500, and timothy, 50, and 1,500 tons of tame hay produced. It was estimated that 15,000 pounds of butter was manufactured in Trenton township, worth $2,000.

**Hager City** contains seventy-five persons. They have a Presbyterian church, one general store, one dealer in grain and one saloon.

**Henry L. Curry** was born in Pennsylvania, near Pittsburg, October 30, 1834, son of James and Agnes Gracie Curry, who were the parents of nine children, as follows: Eliza, John, Hewitt, Jane, Robert, Henry L., George, Abram and Willison. John came to Trenton, Wis., from Pennsylvania in 1854, and Robert, George and Henry L. came the following year. Robert, Henry L., George, Abram and Willison were veterans of the Union army. Willison and George were cavalrymen; Abram was in a Pennsylvania regiment; Robert served in the Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and Henry L. in the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted in Company E of that regiment at Red Wing, Minn., took part in the first battle of Murfreesboro and served four years. The regiment was then sent north to fight the Indians at Wood Lake, Minn., afterward returned south in time for the second battle of Murfreesboro. Henry L. participated in the siege of Vicksburg at Little Rock, Ark.; at Duvall's Bluff, and also in other engagements. He was discharged in December, 1864, and re-enlisted the same day as a non-commissioned officer. He received his final discharge September 2, 1865, at Duvall's Bluff, Ark., and returned to Trenton township, Wisconsin, having continued to live on his present farm forty-one years. He was married July 4, 1867, to Alice Mary Gray, daughter of James and Agnes Lightfoot, of Green Bay,

Wis., by which union there are six children—Annie was born April 19, 1868, and is now Mrs. William Barnard, of Oklahoma; Linna was born August 28, 1870, and is the wife of E. K. Barnard, principal of schools at Tacoma, Wash.; Laura, born December 30, 1874, is now Mrs. William Niles, of Dota, Wash.; Harvey, born November 18, 1879, is a carpenter and builder in the state of Washington; Theodore was born November 23, 1883, and is an electrician at Baker, Wash.; Leslie was born August 18, 1888, and follows the same occupation in the same city. Mr. Curry is a member of the A. E. Welch Post, No. 75, G. A. R., of Red Wing, Minn., and in politics is a Republican. He was the first town treasurer of Trenton and was elected to succeed himself for twelve successive terms. He was justice of the peace fifteen years, also town clerk, school director. During its existence he was secretary of the Trenton Grange. Mr. Curry carries on general farming and stock raising upon 217 acres, eighty acres being the home place, which he purchased upon his return from the war. Mrs. Curry died January 15, 1906, and is buried in Trenton cemetery.

**Charles Frederick Eneroth** was born in Sweden, October 30, 1849, son of Carl Frederick and Hilda (Wohlfahrt) Eneroth. He received his education at Carlstaad, Sweden, and came to America alone in 1866, locating for one year at Red Wing, Minn. He then farmed near that city until 1890, when he came to Hager, Wis., where he purchased his present farm from the Rev. Ezra Tucker. He was married March 18, 1874, at Featherstone Prairie, Goodhue county, Minn., to Josephine West Rogers, daughter of Thomas R. Rogers and Mary Bishop Rogers, natives of Delaware where Mrs. Eneroth was born. They came westward to Illinois in the early days and settled in Goodhue county, Minn., a few years later. Mr. and Mrs. Eneroth are the parents of nine children: Carl Robinson was born February 24, 1875, and died April 14, 1876; Hannah May was born May 24, 1876, and died July 25, 1903, being buried in the Hager cemetery. Hilda Charlotte was born November 3, 1878, and is a music teacher at Redlands, Cal. An unnamed infant died when three days old. Charles Walter was born July 29, 1882, and died June 19, 1906; Ellen Josephine was born March 16, 1885, and is now Mrs. Henry Gothrick, of Portland, Ore.; Harold Raymond, born November 9, 1887, died August 2, 1903; Dorothy, born March 14, 1891, resides in Red Wing, Minn., and Margaret, born December 16, 1894, is at home. Mr. Eneroth is an elder of the Presbyterian church, also clerk of sessions. He is a member of the Scandinavian Benevolent society of Red Wing, Minn., and of the Minnesota Relief Association. He is treasurer of the town-

ship of Trenton, which position he still holds. His farm consists of eighty acres of good land upon which he carries on general farming and stock raising.

## TRIM BELLE TOWNSHIP.

March 2, 1855, Trim Belle township was organized with F. Otis and Aaron Cornelison as supervisors. These two gentlemen, with Martin B. Williams were probably the earliest settlers in Trim Belle. Trim Belle township in 1907 had 564 head of horses, 2,018 head of cattle, 973 sheep and lambs and 453 head of hogs. The crop acreage in the same year was divided as follows: Wheat 347 acres, corn 610, oats 2,252, barley 1,893, rye 585, flax 64, potatoes 79 and sugar beets 8 acres; 903 acres was sown to tame hay. The production in bushels of the principal crops in 1906 was: Wheat 4,315, corn 12,460, oats 48,160, barley 35,634, rye 5,330, flax 240, potatoes 2,293; 79 tons of sugar beets and 1,382 tons of hay, 27,556 pounds of butter was sent to market from the farms of Trim Belle that year.

Extracts from an article written by J. T. Beddall, of Trim Belle, Pierce county, Wis., and published in "The River Falls Press" February 16, 1882.

The town was named from the beautiful stream that flows through it. What is more beautiful than a trim belle, or pretty girl? In June, 1853 Franklin Otis came into the place for the purpose of making a home. After reviewing different locations he chose for his abode a site at the foot of the hill and near the stream, at the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 17, and in the summer of 1854 he moved to his new home with his family. About half a mile to the northeast, where Aaron Cornelison located at about the same time. As towns had been organized in the western part of the county, several settlers commenced to crowd into the "Big Woods." Among them we find John Smith, H. F. McAllister, David and O. H. Belden, Edwin Green, Noah Tripp and John Lynch in the vicinity of Beldenville; John McLaughlin, Sr., John Beardsley, O. T. Maxon, John McEwen, Lewis Sperry and "Garner" Colerud, near the present village of Trim Belle. The "Huot" sawmill was built in 1853 by O. T. Maxon, and afterward sold to John Huot. It would compare favorably with the sawmills of our earliest American forefathers, having one vertical saw doing its work, "slow but sure." It was destroyed in 1870, and the water power given to the "Huot" grist mill, built on the opposite side of the stream. It was purchased by F. W. Haverlandt in 1874 or 1875 and operated by him for a number of years. In 1855 the "Felt" sawmill was built by Hannibal Felt, in what is now known as "Utah." This burg received its name from the Mormonist

proclivities of the mill owner. The mill did not differ materially in plan from the one built two years before by Mr. Maxon. The town was organized in the spring of 1855. For the purpose of organizing, the county board met at the home of Franklin Otis, who was a member of the board at that time. The first town election was held in April of the same year, but as the records have been poorly kept or were lost, we are unable to tell who the first town officers were except such as have been recorded traditionally. Franklin Otis was chairman of the first board of supervisors. John McEwen was the first town clerk, Aaron Cornelison, Sr., was first town treasurer. The first postoffice was established in 1855 and was called Trim Belle postoffice. Aaron Cornelison, Sr., was the first postmaster. He was also mail carrier. Mail was received from Prescott once a week, and Trim Belle was the terminus of the route. Previous to the establishment of the postoffice, Mr. Cornelison had started a store, the first one at Trim Belle; and it was through his efforts that the postoffice was established and maintained at that early date.

The next postoffice established was the Beldenville postoffice, in 1858, with J. H. Collins postmaster. This office received a weekly mail until 1873, when it was changed to twice a week, and in 1877 to a daily mail. The village of Trim Belle was laid out in 1856 by Aaron Cornelison. Directly west from this, and on the other side of the stream, a village was laid out and named Franklin, in honor of him who first lived on the spot, Franklin Otis. The village of Beldenville was laid out in 1856 by David and O. H. Belden, although they soon left the place, their name, lengthened by "ville," has been ever since used. The first store building was put up in 1856 by A. H. Young and C. P. Sargeant. The next store building was built in 1859 by William Martin, near the residence of J. H. McLaughlin, June 1, 1855. David and O. H. Belden commenced to build a steam sawmill at Beldenville. It was completed and running by September 1. A shingle mill was also attached. A fanning mill factory by Miles and Grant was started at Beldenville about this time, this soon changed its base to Hastings, Minn. In 1862 the first church was built and in 1864 was dedicated under the auspices of the M. E. society.

In 1866 D. W. Kinne was elected to the office of town clerk and with the exception of one year, held the office continually for eleven years. J. H. McLaughlin was elected town treasurer in 1867 and held the office continually for many years. In 1867 Jonathan Park commenced to build the furniture factory at "Utah." Later in the season he received a partner, John Reeves. Mr. Parker disposed of his interest in 1871-72. Bedsteads, lounges and bureaus were the articles manufactured, and in 1877 chairs

were introduced. In 1880 Reeves, Powers & Ottman built the first steam sawmill at Utah, and as amber cane was beginning to be raised quite extensively, apparatus for the manufacture of syrup was put in, in connection with the sawmill.

Trim Belle took an active part in the Civil War. More volunteers went from Trim Belle, according to population, than from any of the adjoining towns. In 1864 there were scarcely men enough to take care of the growing crops.

In June, 1872, the following appeared in the "Pierce County Herald":

Died, in Trim Belle, September 18, 1871, of heart disease, Chauncey S. Lamb, aged fifty-eight years, five months and twenty-eight days. May 24, 1872, of same disease, David Orin Lamb, aged thirteen years. June 21, 1872, Sarah A. Lamb, of same disease, aged ten years.

On August 3, 1872, Mrs. Irene H. Ottman, a near neighbor of Mrs. Lamb, died while under Mrs. Lamb's care. It was now hinted by some that poisoning was the cause of these numerous deaths. Many, however, were loth to believe it, as Mrs. Lamb was such a fine Christian-like lady. On August 15, 1872, Royal Garland, a bachelor, who had hired Mrs. Lamb to cook for his harvest hands was taken suddenly ill after dinner and died in a short time. His stomach was removed by Dr. Cotton, of Prescott, Wis., and examined by Dr. Hoyt, of Hudson, Wis., for poison. Large quantities of strychnine were found. Mrs. Charlotte Lamb was arrested August 26, 1872, by Sheriff Mason, circumstances pointing to her as the author of this capital crime. Previous to her trial at the spring term of court, in 1873, the other bodies were disinterred and strychnine found in three of them. She was found guilty and sentenced to state's prison for life, but was afterward removed, on the insanity plea, and is now in the insane asylum.

Note.—She was confined in the asylum for over twenty years before she was discharged as cured.

**George Anderson** resides on section 23, Trim Belle township, where he owns and operates eighty acres of rich farm land. He was born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, March 28, 1837, and there received his education in the common schools, remaining until he was about twenty-three years old, when he came west, settling in Dodge county, and remaining two years, working by the month. He then came to Ellsworth township, Pierce county, and bought eighty acres of wild land. This he improved and brought a large part of it under cultivation, and here he made his home for four or five years. Then he purchased his present farm, where he has lived ever since, engaged in general farming and stock raising. He is a Republican in his politics and has

held some of the minor offices. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the Masonic order. Mr. Anderson married Mary Cheeney, who was born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, where she was educated and where she grew to womanhood. She is still living at the age of sixty-six. She has had two children: Frank H. was born July 14, 1874. He attended the district schools and graduated from the Ellsworth High school. He made his home with his parents until twenty-five years of age when he purchased eighty acres in section 24, cornering his father's farm. He has put on all the improvements on this place, remodeled the home and has the larger part of it under cultivation. He married Lura Leonard, who was born in Vermont and came west when four years old, daughter of George Truax and C. (Skinner) Truax. Mrs. Truax married William Leonard for her second husband and the daughter Lura took the name of Leonard. Mr. Leonard was an early settler of Pierce county. He was a farmer of Ellsworth township all his life and died at the age of sixty years. His widow is still living, and resides on her farm in Ellsworth township. Unto Frank Anderson and wife, one child was born, Evlyn, born January 8, 1906. Earl was born December 28, 1876, resides with his parents and operates the home farm. He married Mary Sorenson, who was born in Denmark, and came here when quite a small girl. Earl attended the Ellsworth High school and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

**Andrew Beardsley** now resides on section 10, Trim Belle township, Pierce county, Wisconsin, where he owns and farms 200 acres. He was born in the township of Trim Belle April 27, 1860, and received his education in the common schools and assisted on his father's farm. His father was Alvah S. and his mother was Mary Ann (Gilgin) Beardsley. His father was born in New York state. His mother was a native of Ireland. She came to the United States when eighteen years of age. Alvah S. Beardsley, the father of Andrew, when a young man, moved to Michigan, where he lived a number of years. In about 1853 he moved to Oak Grove, Wis., and bought a farm and lived on it until he moved to Trim Belle township and purchased a farm of forty acres, on section 16, where he lived the balance of his life. He passed away June 16, 1904, at the age of seventy-four years. He never sought a political office, but has always voted the Republican ticket. He enlisted in Company A, Twelfth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, in 1863, and served until the close of the Civil war. He marched with Sherman to the sea, was in the battle of Atlanta, and, in fact, took part in all of the engagements of his regiment. He was wounded twice. He was at the general review at Washington, D. C., of the armies of Grant

and Sherman, who had shared in the last struggle. He was mustered out and returned home and is now a member of the G. A. R., Trim Belle post, which was consolidated with the Ellsorth post. His wife died May 19, 1906. Andrew Beardsley was engaged in the flour and milling business at Trim Belle for two years, and then followed the trade of a miller for nine years in different parts of the county. He then went into the sawmill business. He erected a mill at Beldenville, Pierce county, Wis., and run it for seven years, then went to Elmwood village, same county, and erected a mill, which he still owns and operates. He has made this his principal business. Mr. Beardsley married Elizabeth Fay December 31, 1889. She was born in Hastings, Minn., daughter of John and Ann Fay, both of whom are now deceased. Mrs. Beardsley was educated in the district schools of Oak Grove township, where her parents moved and lived for many years engaged in farming. Their latter days were spent in Burnett county, Wis. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Beardsley five children have been born. Harvey A., born March 17, 1891, is attending St. Paul Business College; Ned was born June 25, 1895; Ray, Laura and Nina Mannette died in infancy. Mr. Beardsley is a Republican in politics.

**John T. Beddall** was born in the township of Trim Belle, February 16, 1861, and was educated at the district schools and at the State Normal at River Falls, Wis. He is the son of Thomas and Almira (Sperry) Beddall. His father was born in England and emigrated to the United States in 1840, when he was nineteen years old. He settled at Woodbury, Conn., and was a worker in white metals, a whitesmith by trade, making cutlery, shears, etc. There he lived about sixteen years, and then, in 1856, he came to Trim Belle and settled on a farm on section 30. He purchased 120 acres of land, and lived on it until his death, June 4, 1883, at the age of sixty-two. He was a Mason and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he was a Republican. The mother of our subject was born in Winnebago county, Illinois, and came to Pierce county, Wis., when a small girl; daughter of Lewis Sperry, who was a very early settler of Trim Belle township, where he was engaged in farming until some time in the '60s, when he sold out his farm and moved to Iowa. John T. is one of seven children, four of whom are still living. He is the oldest and the only one now residing in this county. Mr. Beddall remained upon his father's farm until twenty-one years of age, and began clerking in September, 1882 in the store of which he is now proprietor, then owned by E. Leach & Co. He clerked until November 26, 1882, when he and Andrew Peterson purchased the business and for about five years the store was run under the firm name of

Beddall & Peterson. On January 13, 1887, Mr. Beddall bought out Mr. Peterson's interest, and ever since that time he has run a general store at Trim Belle, and is enjoying the confidence of the people. He owns two farms and is a stockholder in the Bank of Ellsworth. Republican in politics, he has held the office of clerk of Trim Belle township for the past twenty-six years. He was appointed postmaster in May, 1885, and he held that office until it was discontinued, March 31, 1903, by the establishment of the rural route. He has been a notary public since 1883, and is a member of the Masonic order, Modern Woodmen of America and the Eastern Star. Mr. Beddall was wedded to Nantie L. Cornelison, April 23, 1885, daughter of Aaron and Martha Cornelison. They were among the pioneer settlers of Trim Belle township. Mr. Cornelison was a farmer all his life and died on the home farm December 13, 1906. Mrs. Cornelison passed away December 19, 1900. Mrs. Beddall was educated at the common schools and at the State Normal at River Falls, Wis., and taught school some time in Pierce county. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Beddall; Claude R., born April 15, 1889, is a student in the State University of Minnesota; Lois M., born March 23, 1891, is attending the State Normal at River Falls, Wis.; Floyd O., born January 25, 1894, is attending the High school at Ellsworth, and Joyce L., born June 5, 1896, is also a student in the High school at Ellsworth.

**James Cope** was born in England April 29, 1859, and lived there until twelve years of age, when, in 1871, he came to the United States with his parents, Anthony and Mary (Beckett) Cope. The father of James was a locksmith by trade and followed that during his residence in England. Upon coming to America the family settled at Ellsworth, Wis., where the father worked in a sawmill for some years. He died at the age of fifty years, and is buried at Ellsworth, Wis. His widow is still living at the age of about sixty-five years. James Cope remained at home until twenty-two years of age and then engaged in cutting staves in a stave mill at Ellsworth, and followed it at different places for twenty years. Then he purchased a farm of eighty acres, which he farmed for some years, and then sold it and purchased his present farm, where he has since engaged in general farming and stock raising. In his politics he is a Republican and has been treasurer of Trim Belle school for some years. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. of Ellsworth. Mr. Cope was married January 22, 1882, to Elnora Fenton, who was born in Pennsylvania and came to Pierce county with her parents. She was educated at the public schools of Ellsworth and remained at home until her marriage. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Cope six children were born, four of whom are living: Earl, born at Ellsworth, March 20, 1884, was killed in a railroad accident Febru-

ary 21, 1907. He married Rebecca Berrell, who had one child, Joyce. Cornelius was born January 3, 1887. Floyd was born March 5, 1890. Roy was born February 27, 1895. Vardis was born May 26, 1902. The sixth child died in infancy. Mr. Cope lives on section 11, Trim Belle township.

**John W. Cornelison** resides on section 16, Trim Belle township, where he owns and operates 140 acres. He was born in Madison county, Illinois, July 4, 1842, son of Aaron and Martha A. (Reaves) Cornelison, the former of whom was born in Kentucky, March 21, 1822. His parents moved to Illinois and settled in Madison county when he was four years old and there his father engaged in farming and live stock raising until he moved to St. Croix Falls, Wis., in 1844. He remained here about two years and worked in the sawmills as head sawyer, then he moved to Marine, Washington county, Minn., engaging in the same business for a short time. He returned to Wisconsin and located at Prescott, and then moved to a farm in Clifton township. Here he farmed 160 acres of land on section 16, which he became the owner of. This was all wild land, he put on some improvements and remained on the farm about four years. He then sold his farm to George Wright and removed November 22, 1852, to Trim Belle township, settling on section 17, where he entered 160 acres. He was the first one to settle in the township. He improved this farm and lived on it until his death, which occurred December 13, 1907. He also ran the first store in Trim Belle, and became a large property owner, at one time owning over 400 acres of good farm land. He enlisted in Company D, First Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, in 1863, and served until the war was over, taking part in many important battles. He was discharged at Madison, Wis., and returned to his home, in Trim Belle township. He was a member of the Methodist church from boyhood and licensed to preach. He was a Democrat in politics. He was chairman of the township for several terms; was the first chairman, and the first postmaster of Trim Belle, and was township treasurer for many years. In fact, he held all of the township offices and was very active in politics. He was a public spirited man and was held in the very highest esteem by everybody. He was a member of the G. A. R., John A. Otis post, of Trim Belle, and was quartermaster sergeant at the time of his death. He was a great reader and kept himself well informed upon the current events of the day. He was a high minded gentleman and was a strong advocate for all that he believed to be right and for the best interests of the community in which he lived. He was indeed a representative man. The mother was born in Tennessee and died December 19, 1900, at about 76 years of age. She came to Illinois with her parents

JOHN W. CORNELISON

AARON CORNELISON

when seven years old. They settled in Madison county, and there she lived until her marriage. She was a member of the M. E. church, and was a mother of thirteen children, nine of whom are still living, to-wit: John W., Moses, Aaron, Martha (she was the first child born in Trim Belle township, January 17, 1853, and married George T. Reaves), Henry W., Nancy L., Seymore S., George W., and Mary E. The following are deceased: William F., George T., Miletus E., and Margaret. All except our subject and Margaret were born in Pierce county, Wisconsin. The subject of this sketch remained on the old home farm until 1870. Then he purchased his present farm, where he has since resided, being a general farmer and stock raiser, making a specialty of Jersey cattle and Poland-China hogs. He has put on all the improvements on the place, has good buildings and a first-class farm. He is a democrat, has served twenty-five years as road supervisor, and is also holding the office of justice of the peace. He is a member of the M. E. church. He enlisted July 31, 1862, in Company F, Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. The last year of the war he was detached from the company and was clerk in the headquarters department of Kentucky and remained as clerk two months after the close of the war. He was discharged at Madison, Wis., and is now a member of the G. A. R. He is a charter member of Rollin P. Converse post of Prescott, No. 118, and now is a member of Ellsworth post, the Otis post, of Trim Belle, having united with the Ellsworth post. Mr. Cornelison now owns the old homestead as well as the farm he lives on. June 23, 1867, he married Helen Reeve, who was born in England in 1848 and came with her parents to the United States when about four years old. Her father was John and her mother was Slater (Clark) Reeve, both natives of England. Upon coming to America they lived for some time at Chicago, Ill., and then came to Bay City, Pierce county, where they lived for several years, and afterwards moved to Prescott, same county, where his wife died, and he then moved to Trim Belle township. He was a millwright and worked at his trade. He moved to the village of Ellsworth and engaged in the manufacture of furniture. From here he moved to a place called Reeve, near Clear Lake, Wis. The last few years of his life he passed with his children. Mr. and Mrs. Cornelison have had nine children born to them, in order named: Jesse W., born March 31, 1868, married Mattie Baker, resides in Minneapolis, Minn., and has two children, Ralph W. and Clair W.; Willis R., died November 29, 1888, aged eighteen years; Ruby, died at the age of three years, three months, and twenty-four days; Lee A. was born December 3, 1874, married Emma

Englebretson, and has two children, Gladys and Harry L.; John R., was born February 9, 1876; Alice M., was born August 31, 1880, married B. G. Thompson, of Beldenville, Wis., and has two children, Ardus and Reeve R.; Dora P., was born February 16, 1882; Ida E., was born July 7, 1886, and Cora V., was born August 7, 1888. All of the children were educated in the schools of Pierce county.

**Michael F. Harris** lives on sections 9 and 10, Trim Belle township, Pierce county, Wisconsin, where he owns and operates 160 acres of good farm land. He was born in Ireland, County Wicklow, and came to the United States when nine years of age, arriving at New York in 1856. His parents, Peter and Julia (Connor) Harris, settled in Clark county, Ohio. There the father engaged in farming and lived there about fifteen years; then came to Trim Belle township and bought forty acres of land and afterwards added eighty acres more, there making his home until two years before his death, when he went to Prescott, Wis. He died in 1901 at the age of ninety-six. He was held in high esteem by all who knew him. A member of the Catholic church and a republican in politics. The mother of this subject died some years before her husband at the age of sixty-seven years. She was a mother of six children, four of whom are now living. Michael F. Harris was educated in the common schools of Clark county, Ohio, and assisted on his father's farm. He remained at home until he enlisted in the state home guards of Clark county, Ohio. Later he joined Company C, 129th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was discharged March 4, 1864, and reenlisted March 20, 1864, in the navy and served until the close of the Civil war. He was at Knoxville, Tenn., at the taking of Cumberland Gap. He was wounded at Tunisa Bend, La., in the left leg and also the left hand. He was discharged at Cairo, Ill., in 1865 and returned to Ohio, and in the fall of 1866 came to Pierce county, and bought eighty acres in Trim Belle township on section 25, which he afterwards traded for the farm on which he now resides. He is a member of the G. A. R., Ellsworth post, No. 118, and was the first commander of the Trim Belle post. A republican in politics, he was treasurer of the township for eight years, assessor one term and a member of the township board for eight years. He is a member of the Catholic church and a member of the flying squadron of naval veterans.

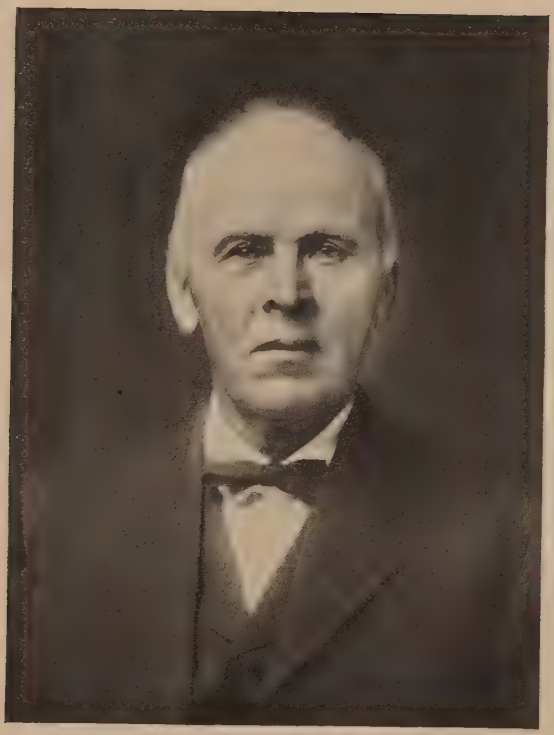
In 1874 Mr. Harris married Maria Goggin, who was born in Lowell, Mass., and came to Pierce county, Wisconsin, with her parents, John and Maria (Sullivan) Goggin. They came to Wisconsin in an early day and settled in Diamond Bluff, where they lived until their death. Mrs. Harris died at the home place in December, 1898, at the age of forty-three. She was the mother

of eleven children, seven of whom survive her, all born in Trim Belle township and educated there, as follows: Emmet, born March 6, 1875, died July 14, 1878; John B., born November 7, 1876; Mary, born June 3, 1878, and died July 9 of the same year; Martha, born August 29, 1879, died December 11, 1888; Julia Etta, born August 20, 1881, died January 28, 1896; Lucy, born May 29, 1883, married Homer Tracey, of Trim Belle township; Peter, born September 12, 1885; Teressa, born December 25, 1887; Michael Leo, born April 1, 1893; George Francis, born December 21, 1896; Emma, born in 1890, graduated from the Ellsworth high school at the head of her class and is now teaching school.

**F. W. Haverlandt** resides on section 21, Trim Belle township. He was born in Saxony, Germany, September 10, 1840, emigrated to the United States and landed at Baltimore Md., November, 1865. He was educated in Germany and learned the miller's trade. From Baltimore he moved to Louisville, Ky., worked in a flour mill the first winter, and then he went to St. Louis, Mo., where he was engaged at his trade for several years. He then moved to St. Paul, Minn.; from here he went to Rice county, Minnesota and took a position as miller. At Dundas, Minn., he ran a mill for Archibald Bros., and then moved to Faribault, Minn., working at his trade until the spring of 1869, when he returned to Germany and married. Returning to Faribault, he took up his old situation. In September, 1870, he bought a mill at Martell, Pierce county, Wisconsin, which he operated about five years, until March 10, 1875, when the mill was destroyed by fire. He then purchased the Huot mill at Trim Belle, and in May, 1875, moved his family there. Since then he has made his home at Trim Belle. After he had run the mill for a number of years he sold it to Mr. F. Route, who operated it and later sold it to McLaughlin Bros., who are the present owners. Mr. Haverlandt has erected a large and comfortable dwelling and an extensive basement barn and other buildings on his model farm. He owned at one time about 400 acres of good farm land, all in the township of Trim Belle, and put a large part of it under cultivation, it being nearly all wild land at the time he purchased it. He was one of the first directors of the Trim Belle Farmers' creamery and a heavy stockholder. He has always been a liberal donater to the different churches, but is not a member of any church. In his politics he is a republican and was justice of the peace for a number of years. He has been a member of the I. O. O. F. since 1870. He married June 18, 1869, Alvina Menzendorff, who was born and educated in Germany. They have had twelve children, of whom eight are living, to-wit: William, born March 25, 1870; Minnie, born

January 16, 1872, married Charles Tousau, of River Falls township, and has three children, Alvina, Nona, and Esther; Charles, born January 15, 1875, married Lou Betzel, and three children have been born to them, Kate, William, and Blanche, all of whom are at home and reside on a farm at Flat Head county, Montana; Otto, born December 7, 1876, resides on a farm in River Falls township with his wife, who was Lydia Brotherson before her marriage; Louis, born October 4, 1878, and died March 30, 1892; Emma, born April 30, 1880; Gertrude, born June 29, 1881; Caesar, born December 5, 1882; Benny, born August 1, 1890. The other children died in infancy. Mr. Haverlandt is a self-made man and what he has accumulated has been by his own honest efforts and perseverance.

**Lars Larson** was born in Norway, October 14, 1851, and came to the United States with his parents, Lars and Olena Larson when two and a half years old. Mr. Larson, Sr., was a farmer in Norway and settled on Rush river in the township of Martell, Pierce county, Wisconsin, about 1853 or 1854. Here he purchased 120 acres of wild land from the government, which he cleared and brought under cultivation. Here he made his home until the breaking out of the Civil war, when he enlisted January 4, 1862, in Company G, Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served six months, when he was discharged for disability. He returned to his farm in Pierce county and lived there until his death April 5, 1865, aged forty-six. His widow is still living and resides with the subject of this sketch at the age of eighty-seven years. She was born June 25, 1821, and is the mother of nine children, five of whom are still living. Our subject was educated in the district schools of Martell township and worked upon the home farm until about twenty-one years of age. He and his brother, Christ C. Larson, purchased the old home place, and have been associated together in all their business transactions since the death of their father. The two brothers farmed the old place for some years and still own it. They are also the owners of large landed interests in Martell and Trim Belle township, also farms and timber lands in the northern part of Wisconsin. They have been interested in the lumber business since 1882, and in addition ran a general store for twelve years at the village of Beldenville, Wis. In addition they have been extensively engaged in stock raising. Mr. Larson erected a large and comfortable home for himself and family at the village of Beldenville, where he now resides. He also has built large, commodious barns and other buildings for the shelter of grain and stock. Larson Brothers for the past few years have dealt quite largely in real estate in northern Wisconsin and the Dakotas. Mr. Larson is a member of the Methodist



LARS LARSON

church and the I. O. O. F., of Centerville, Wis. He is a Republican in politics. He married for his first wife Maria Timberlake, who was born in Kinnickinnic township, St. Croix county. Her father, Benjamin Timberlake, was an early settler. Mrs. Larson died without children and is buried at River Falls Cemetery. Mr. Larson married for his second wife Mary Hey, born in the township of Rush River, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, daughter of John T. and Nettie Hey. Mr. Hey is one of the early settlers of St. Croix county and was engaged in farming all his active life. He is still living with his wife on the old homestead. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Larson three children have been born: Raymond, born November 8, 1889; Edna, born November 7, 1891, and Harvey, born July 5, 1895.

**Jonathan M. Locke, Sr.**, resides in the township of Trim-Belle, on his farm of eighty-five acres on section 12, where he is engaged in general farming and dairying. He was born in New Hampshire, county of Grafton, February 15, 1844. In 1848 he moved with his parents to Pennsylvania, settling in Crawford county, where his father engaged in lumbering and the manufacture of oil well fixtures. His father's name was Jonathan and his mother's Sarah (Cook) Locke, natives of New Hampshire. His father died at Bradford, Pa., at about eighty-one years of age, in 1895. His mother died at the age of seventy-six, in 1891. Mr. Locke is one of nine children, five of whom are still living, our subject being the only one that came to Wisconsin. He remained at home and received his education in the public schools and the academy in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, and was associated with his father in the making of oil well tools, and remained there until he moved to Wisconsin, about 1879. He enlisted at Titusville, Pa., in Company K, Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, in 1862, and served until the close of the war. He was in many important battles and was taken prisoner at the battle of Gettysburg, Pa., and was held fourteen months. He was also taken prisoner at Bottoms Bridge, Va., and held about three months. He was paroled and afterwards exchanged. He was discharged at Petersburg, Va., and mustered out there. He then returned to Titusville, Pa., and lived there until he came to Pierce county, Wisconsin, in 1879. He farmed about two years in River Falls township and then returned to Titusville, Pa. About 1883 he returned to Pierce county and settled on the farm he now occupies. He has been a member of the school board for two years, and is a Republican in politics. Mr. Locke was wedded to Ellen A. Foster, born in Chautauqua county, New York, daughter of Hiram and Amy A. (Merrill) Foster, natives of New York state. The father was a farmer and about the year 1869 he came to Wisconsin, settled at

River Falls, soon purchased a farm in River Falls township and moved his family there. Jonathan M. Locke now resides on the old homestead. His father-in-law died on the farm March 28, 1889, age sixty-six. His widow died in 1902 at the age of seventy-three. Mr. and Mrs. Locke have had four children, all born at Titusville, Pa. Harry B. is a farmer and resides in North Dakota. He married Eliza Barker, who died leaving two children, Fred E. and Ralph B. For his second wife he married Ella L. Taylor. There are no children by this union. Edna A. is the wife of M. F. Reed, of Trim Belle township. They have had three children—Birdie A., Esther E. and Everel L. The first husband of Edna A. was Charles Goldsmith, a farmer of Trim Belle township, who died and left his widow one child—Bernice F. Birdie S. married George B. Reed, railroad agent at Ellsworth, and the five children born to them are: Clyde L., Erma I., Edwin M., Joyce A. and Lenore E. Jonathan M., Jr., is the last one born to Mr. and Mrs. Locke. He married Martha E. Mason and is a railroad agent at Beldenville, Wis. They have one child—Ida Irene. Mrs. Locke has one brother living, Clarence M. Foster, who resides at Toledo, O.

**Frank McLaughlin** resides in Trim Belle township, where he is engaged in the flour and feed business. He is running the first mill erected on the Trim Belle river at this point. He was born in Trim Belle township, December 10, 1872, was educated in the district schools and worked on his father's farm as a boy until he was fifteen years old, when he learned the miller's trade on Rush river. He was with Andrew Peterson three years and then he went to Welch, Minn., and engaged in the milling business for seven years, after which he returned to Trim Belle and engaged in his present occupation. He purchased the mill about 1898 and has conducted it ever since, being associated with his brother, George. They also have another mill on the Trim Belle river near the village, which they have operated one year under the firm name of McLaughlin Brothers. They are doing a large and prosperous business, having the confidence of the people of the entire surrounding country for their fair and upright dealings. They manufacture Best patent flour, which has a large sale, and both mills are constantly run to their full capacity. The children are still the owners of the old homestead place. Mr. McLaughlin is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, of Ellsworth, and is a Republican in politics. He married Zenia Keller, May 17, 1893, daughter of Theodore and Rose Keller, early settlers of Trim Belle township, and they have had two children—Erma died when six months old; Ilda, born November 16, 1896, is attending the public school at Trim Belle. The parents of our subject were William and Elizabeth

(Chamberlin) McLaughlin. The father was born in Pennsylvania and emigrated to Wisconsin in 1854, settling on eighty acres, which he had purchased in Trim Belle township, where he resided until his death, March 17, 1887, at the age of sixty-five years, having been born in 1822. There were but two or three houses in the neighborhood when he settled in the township. He was a successful farmer and a progressive man, well thought of by those who knew him. He was married in his native state in 1854, the same year he came to Wisconsin, and his wife died one year after he died, at the age of sixty-eight. They were the parents of seven children, five of whom are now living. Mrs. McLaughlin's father was a prominent and influential man and died on the home place. Her mother was born at St. Paul, Minn., and moved to Trim Belle township with her parents. She was present at the Indian massacre at New Ulm, Minn., in which her father and mother and two sisters were killed.

**Joseph W. Maier,** who resides on section 2, Trim Belle township, was born in Trim Belle township, February 4, 1871, and was educated at the district schools. His parents, Donat and Sophia (Launstein) Maier, were both born in Germany and came to the United States, the father at the age of seventeen and the mother at the age of ten years. The father lived for ten years in Milwaukee, Wis., and then settled in Pierce county. At the age of twenty-seven he bought 130 acres of wild land on sections 5 and 6, Trim Belle township, which he cleared and made a fine farm and home for his family. Here he lived until his death, April 11, 1907, age seventy-two years. He was a member of the German Catholic church. He made his place one of the model farms of the county and his widow still resides there at the age of seventy-one years. Joseph Maier remained at home, assisting on the farm until twenty years of age, and then went to Iowa and bought a thoroughbred percheron stallion and bred horses for a period of six years in Pierce county, where he has since resided, engaged in general farming and horse breeding. He is a Republican in politics, but has never sought any public offices. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Maier married Margaret Baird, who was born in Trim Belle township, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (McCracken) Baird, both born in Glasgow, Scotland. They came to the United States before the time of the war, lived thirteen months in Steuben county, York state, then moved to Trim Belle, Pierce county, and took up 160 acres of government land, where he made a good home for his wife and family and on which he lived until the time of his death, October 11, 1890. His widow still resides there. Margaret Baird remained at home and assisted in any work she was called on to do, and after her father's death bought eighty acres

of the home place and later bought 160 acres adjoining, which makes the good farm she and her husband now own. There are three children: Matilda, Falicitius and Burnice.

**Michael Nugent** holds the position of superintendent of the Pierce county poor farm, which is situated in the township of Ellsworth. He was born in Oconomowoc, Wis., September 26, 1852, and lived there till he was twenty-six years of age. He worked on his father's farm summers and attended the common schools of his birthplace. Upon leaving the farm he spent seven years in the pinery near Menominee, Mich., and in 1880 came to Pierce county, settling in the township of Trim Belle, on section 35, where he lived and farmed for a number of years. In 1899 he was elected sheriff of Pierce county and moved to Ellsworth. He was elected for a second term and thus served four years, and then was appointed to his present position as superintendent of the poor farm. Mr. Nugent owns 160 acres of land in Trim Belle and has one of the model farms of the county. He also owns a fine residence in the village of Ellsworth, opposite the court house. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the St. Frances' Catholic church. Mr. Nugent was married to Mary Ann Reilley, who died leaving four children, as follows: John F., residing on his father's farm, married Ida Khalstad; Mary Ella, Michael E. and James L., the last three named, being at home. Mr. Nugent married for his second wife Lizzie Carolin, of River Falls. Her father, Barnard Carolin, was one of the early settlers of River Falls township. Mr. Nugent served for nine years as chairman of the board of Trim Belle township, two years as assessor and fifteen years as director of the school board.

**Charles F. Ottman** was born December 13, 1858, in the village of Delevan, Walworth county, Wisconsin. In 1859, when Charles F. was less than a year old, his parents moved to Pierce county, Wisconsin, and settled in Trim Belle township. His parents, Nelson and Sarah M. (Day) Ottman, were born in New York state and grew to maturity there. They were married and came West at an early day to Walworth county, and here the father engaged in farming. Upon coming to Pierce county Nelson Ottman purchased a farm of 160 acres, sections 35 and 36, in Trim Belle township. The place is now known as "Ottman's Corners." He was a Methodist and was an active church worker. A member of the Republican party, he was assessor of the township and a member of the township board for years. He died in 1891 at the age of seventy-five and is buried in Trim Belle Cemetery. He was a successful farmer and a man held in high esteem. When our subject was thirteen years old his mother died. She was the mother of ten children, four of whom

are living—Charles F. worked on his father's farm, attended the district schools and remained at home until he was about twenty-one years of age, then started out in life for himself and in partnership with John Reeve and A. Taylor, purchased the farm of 360 acres on section 14, Trim Belle township, and engaged in the sawmill business. They cut the timber from this property and sawed lumber here for a number of years, and then engaged in general merchandising at Ellsworth, Wis., under the firm name of Reeve, Ottman & Co., and conducted the business four or five years. At the end of this time Mr. Ottman sold out his interest in the store to Mr. Taylor, he taking Mr. Taylor's interest in the land, which was held by Mr. Reeve and the subject of this sketch. They continued in partnership a number of years and then dissolved. Mr. Ottman has made the farm his home ever since. He has put on all the improvements, erected a good frame dwelling, good barns and other buildings for the shelter of stock and grain and has a first-class farm in every regard. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Ottman married July 15, 1882, Emily J. Emerson, a native of Trim Belle township, daughter of Charles F. and Harriett (Morrison) Emerson. Her father came to Pierce county in 1859 and is now leading a retired life at his home in Ellsworth, Wis. He is eighty-one and his wife is seventy-six years of age. Mrs. Ottman received her education in the common schools of Oak Grove and Diamond Bluff township, and remained at home until her marriage. She is the mother of five children—Violet Emily, born March 18, 1884, married William F. Bartlett, a farmer of Trim Belle township, and they have two children—Aileen and Warren; Herbert G., born February 2, 1887, is at home assisting in the farm work; Dora L., born November 16, 1888, a graduate of the Ellsworth High School, is teaching in the district schools; Lorin C., born February 27, 1895, is a student at the Ellsworth High School, and Esther M., born May 8, 1899, is attending the district schools.

**Ephraim Severance.** In the year 1865 Ephraim Severance, a native of Sanborntown, N. H., but then residing at Bangor, Me., removed to Pierce county and purchased a farm in the town of Trim Belle on what has been known as the Thurston Hill. Here he commenced the arduous task of opening a farm in the dense forest. He had while in Maine engaged in the lumbering business and was accustomed to the hard labor incident to that calling.

In the home which he built there he resided until his death, December 9, 1895, at the ripe age of seventy-one years. An active Republican and deeply interested in the Free Baptist church, of which he was a consistent member and of which he

long served as a trustee, he nevertheless never sought the distinction of public office. He married in early life Eliza Merriam, who survived him, dying at her home at the age of about seventy-five years.

**Fred A. Severance** is a son of Ephraim and Eliza Severance and was born at Bangor, Me., December 23, 1850. When about eighteen years of age he removed to Pennsylvania, where he resided for about two years, and then emigrated to the town of Trim Belle, where he purchased a farm near that of his father. To the first purchase he has added others until now he owns one of the finest farms in the valley, comprising about 320 acres, and where he makes his home. In 1890 he gave up the active work of farming and has since devoted his time largely to mercantile pursuits. He has an excellent store in the same town near the railroad station, where he has a large custom trade. In 1897 he was appointed postmaster of the Beldenville postoffice, a position which he still holds. He is an active politician and is always in demand at meetings of the Republican voters of his neighborhood. In 1890 he was chosen as one of the presidential electors and in that capacity cast a vote for William McKinley. His townsmen have long recognized his unusual capacity for public business and have made him their choice as chief officer of the town for several terms and have called upon him to hold nearly all of the public offices. As a clerk of the school district he has served for thirty years and has had the pleasure of witnessing the development of his district from a small country school to a graded school, which is affording excellent facilities for the youth of the district. He has been selected by the county board to serve in the responsible position of chairman of the poor commissioners and to the work of this office he has given an earnest and faithful service. Mr. Severance enjoys companionship and is much sought after by his friends as a boon companion, as is evidenced by the fact that he is an active member of the Masonic Order, of the I. O. O. F., the Modern Woodmen of America and the U. C. T. In his business enterprises he has reached out to a considerable extent and has an interest in the Bank of Ellsworth and also in the Twin City Fuel Company, of Minneapolis. Mr. Severance united in marriage with Etiole Chappel, of Ellsworth, on December 25, 1875. Mrs. Severance was born August 5, 1858, her parents being William H. and Elizabeth (Phillips) Chappel. Her parents were pioneers in the county, coming here as early as 1856 and settling in the Beldenville valley, in the town of Ellsworth, where they remained during the remainder of their lives. Mrs. Chappel died in 1882 and Mr. Chappel in 1893. Mr. and Mrs. Severance have had two children—William, who has graduated from the University of Minnesota, has chosen

the law as his profession and now resides at St. Louis Park, in Minnesota. He recently married Marie Thompson, of Minneapolis, who was also a graduate of the same university. The second son is Adelbert, not yet married, who is engaged as a salesman for the Fleming Mill Company, of Hastings, and makes his home in that city. He is also a graduate of the University of the State of Minnesota.

**Lewis Sperry,** the father of Almira Beddall and grandfather of John T. Beddall, elsewhere referred to in this work, was born in the state of New York on the 16th day of October, 1806. His wife, Betsy Jackman, was born in the state of New York, June 27, 1806. They were married in Alleghany county, New York, December 31, 1829, and later moved to Illinois and Iowa, coming to Prescott, Wis., in the year of 1853. In October of the following year they moved to Trim Belle township and settled on a farm in section 22, township 26, range 18, where they resided until the fall of 1859, when they moved back to Iowa. Mr. Sperry was a Republican in politics and a very decided man in his views. He took an active and aggressive part in the management of town affairs while a resident of Trim Belle. Although too old to be drafted, his patriotism caused him to enlist in the Union army, September 8, 1862, as a private in Company A, Thirty-seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, for a period of three years. He was discharged May 14, 1865, for disability, and died in Providence Hospital, Seattle, Wash., July 14, 1880. His remains rest in Duwamish Cemetery in that city. His widow died at the home of her daughter in Waterloo, Ia., July 7, 1882, and is buried in a Fairfield cemetery. Mr. Sperry left his impress on the life of Trim Belle township. Of unswerving honor and integrity, he was just to the uttermost and was of that old Puritan type of rugged honesty that is now so rapidly disappearing. Any history of this county would be incomplete without mention of his residence here.

**Jesse L. Tabor,** residing on sections 16 and 18, Trim Belle township, was born in Oak Grove township, April 12, 1872, son of Thomas K. and Mary (Keown) Tabor. His father was born in Tennessee and settled in Madison, Ill., when he was ten years old, and lived there until after his marriage, in 1857, then settled in Pierce county, Wis., where they resided for about ten years, engaged in general farming. In 1867 the family moved to Oak Grove township, where his father rented a farm for some years, and later came to Trim Belle township and bought the farm where our subject now resides and where he died July 16, 1902. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a Democrat in politics. He was school trustee for many years. The mother of Jesse L. was born in Madison county, Illinois,

daughter of Thomas P. and Frances (Ford) Keown. Mr. Keown was born in South Carolina and moved to Kentucky with his parents when a small boy. Her father was past eighty-two years and her mother was over eighty years when they died. Our subject is one of ten children, six of whom are living, as follows: Isabella married Sterratt Myron and they have four children—Chancey, Harry, Earle and Charlie. William H. is a farmer and resides in Clifton township. He married Cora Beardsley and they have had seven children—Arthur, Ada, Blanche, Earle, Ralph (deceased), Francis and Helen B. Alice is the wife of James McLaughlin, a farmer in Cass county, North Dakota. They have three children, to wit: Jesse, Esther and Annie. Ida married Charles Canfield, of Cloquet, Minn., and they have one child, Edith C. Charles married Bertha Kinne and three children were born to them, Edgar, Marie and Harry. Jesse L. is the sixth child. They that have passed away are: Hester, E. Milton, Frances and Lewis.

Jesse L. Tabor has always resided on the home farm and has always been a farmer. He married July 1, 1896, Elsie Kellor, who was born and reared in Trim Belle township, Pierce county, Wisconsin, daughter of Theodore and Rose Kellor. Her father died about 1906 at the age of sixty-eight. Her mother still resides in Trim Belle township.

Mr. and Mrs. Tabor are the parents of four children: Thomas K., born September 2, 1898; Theodore J., born August 22, 1900; Vio J., born March 21, 1903, and Bernice E., born December 21, 1905.

**Clark M. Williams** was born in Cortland county, New York state, October 25, 1843. He attended the common schools at the place of his birth and when fifteen years of age his parents settled in Trim Belle township, Wisconsin, where his father engaged in farming and blacksmithing. Marcious Williams, the father of the subject of this biography, served as treasurer of Pierce county, Wisconsin, two terms, being first elected in 1866. He was a Republican all his life. He was chairman of Trim Belle township for many years and also assessor. He was a man held in high esteem. He died August, 1894, at the age of about eighty-three, and is buried in Ellsworth, Wis. His widow died some years before. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Clark M. remained on the home farm until he grew to manhood. He then purchased his present farm and here he has lived ever since. This was all wild land when Mr. Williams moved on the place. He has put on all the improvements and brought the large part of it under cultivation. Mr. Williams is a member of the I. O. O. F. and G. A. R. He enlisted in 1863 in Company A, Twelfth

Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served to the close of the war. He marched with Sherman to the sea, was at Atlanta and, in fact, went through the whole campaign. He was discharged at Louisville, Ky., in 1865, and returned to his home at Trim Belle, where he has since resided.

Two years after he had returned home from the war Mr. Williams married Lovina Kinne, December 15, 1867. She was born in the southern part of Wisconsin and came to Pierce county with her parents, who settled at Ellsworth about 1866 and died there some years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have had born to them five children—Edith, a teacher in the High School of Superior, Wis.; Elsie Burl, Ray N. and Zola. Burl was born in Pennsylvania and the other children were all born in Pierce county, Wisconsin.

## UNION TOWNSHIP.

Union township was organized August 15, 1863. Among its first settlers were Eleazer Holt, Hiram N. Wood and Captain Horst, who made their homes here in the early fifties. The live stock in Union township in 1907 was: Horses, 464 head; cattle, 1,836; sheep, 1,171, and swine, 592. The acreage in crops that year was divided among the principal farm products as follows: Wheat, 338 acres; corn, 1,410; oats, 1,248; barley, 1,892; rye, 111; flax, 31, and potatoes, 48. Other root crops totaled 4 acres; 38 acres was found to be in apple orchards, with 1,121 fruit-bearing trees. The crop yield during the previous year was: Wheat, 4,837 bushels; corn, 43,110; oats, 43,310; barley, 65,464; rye, 1,030; flax, 291, and potatoes, 4,425 bushels; apples, 524 bushels; raspberries, 10; blackberries, 45, and grapes, 7 bushels; 20 bushels of clover was marketed, and 4 bushels of timothy; 2,232 tons of tame hay was grown.

**Plum City** has a population of 306, with one general store, two millinery stores, four saloons, one dealer in agricultural implements, one jewelry store, a furniture and undertaking establishment, a blacksmith shop, meat market, a feed mill and dealer in agricultural implements, one shoemaker and a hardware store.

**Joseph Edwin Britton** was born in Slatersville, Smithfield county, R. I., in 1848, son of Joseph and Mary (Wild) Britton, the former of whom was born in 1820 and died in 1850, and the latter of whom was born September 15, 1817, in England, and died in Dodge county, Wisconsin, in 1882. The father worked in the cotton mills in New England and upon coming westward took up forty acres near Rubicon, Dodge county, where he died. Joseph and Mary Britton were the parents of six children, four of whom are still living. Elizabeth, born in 1840, lives at Loyal, Clark county, Wis.; Jane, born in 1842, lives in Oakfield, Fond du Lac

county, Wis.; Thomas Jefferson and Diana are both dead; Charles W., born in December, 1844, lives on a farm adjoining that of Joseph, the subject of this sketch. Joseph received his education in the common schools and worked in a cotton mill in Rhode Island and a gun factory in Connecticut. In 1865 he removed to Dodge county and took up a farm. In 1874 he came to Pierce county and settled on section 2, Union township, taking up eighty acres of land, to which he has since added forty acres on section 22, Rock Elm township. Mr. Britton was married in 1888 to Priscilla Ross, born in Canada in 1865 in the province of Quebec, a resident of Arkansaw, Pepin county, Wis., at the time of her marriage. This union has been blessed with four children—Mary, born in 1889; Lucy, born in 1892; Verna, born in 1903, and Robert, born in 1908.

**Inglebright Bundlie** was born in 1855 at Huidelen, Norway, his parents being Gullict and Martha (Olson) Bundlie. Gullict was born in Norway in 1823 and his wife in 1833. The former is still living and the latter passed away in 1903. Unto them were born the following children: Ole, born in 1857, is a merchant of Stillwater, Minn.; Christian, born in 1859, is a farmer of Norway; Martin, born in 1862, is a merchant in the state of Idaho; Augusta, born in 1864, lives in Red Wing, Minn.; Agurda, born in 1866, lives in Norway; Milda, born in 1868, also lives in Norway; Louisa, born in 1870, lives in that country; Mary, born in 1872, also lives there. Mr. Bundlie came to the United States in 1881, settling in the township of Hartland, Pierce county, on a farm. In 1883 he started a store at Esdale; in 1885 moved to Ottman's Corners; in 1891 went to Movell; in 1898 located at Ellsworth, and in 1904 came to Plum City, where he has since resided, being still engaged in the mercantile business, which he has followed the larger part of the time that he has resided in this county. He is a Democrat in politics. While at Trim Belle he was on the board of supervisors two years and while at Movell was postmaster. He was on the village board at Ellsworth one year and has served in various capacities in the different townships and villages where he has since resided. In 1876 Mr. Bundlie was married and had the following children: Martha, born in 1878, lives in Trenton township, being married to O. P. Olson; George, born in 1880, runs a store in Minnesota; Iner is the next; Melvin lives in Rockford, Ill. The subject of this sketch married for his second wife Elizabeth Nord, born in 1866, a native of Sweden, but residing at Esdale, this state, at the time of her marriage. Her parents were born in Sweden and came to this country in 1883. By this union Mr. Bundlei has nine children, as follows: Minnie, born in 1885; Arthur, born in 1888; Elida was born in 1890; Cleveland was born in 1893; Ruth in 1895; Harold in 1897;

Dewey in 1899; Leslie in 1901; Dora in 1904. Elida graduated from the Ellsworth High School in 1907 and is planning to take up the career of school teacher. Gustav Nord and Eva Ekerath, parents of Mrs. Bundlie, have the following children: Emma is now Mrs. Lindberg, of Robinsdale, Minn.; Oscar is a farmer at Pepin, Wis.; Minnie is now Mrs. Weston, of Minneapolis; Eddie is a Minnesota farmer; Amanda is at Lexington, Minn., and Christ lives with the old folks. Elizabeth is Mrs. Bundlei.

**Jacob Hellmueller** was born in Switzerland in 1829, son of Joseph H. and Hanna Hellmueller. The father was born in that country in 1789, came to America with his four sons in 1855 and died on what is now the old homestead in Union township, Pierce county, March 17, 1867. The sons were as follows: Joseph died in Red Wing, Minn.; Andrew, better known as Anton, died in Union township; Jacob is the subject of this sketch; Lawrence died in the South. Jacob received his education in Switzerland and after coming to America was married in 1861 to Margaret Wallauer, who passed away in 1884 in Union township. He was again married in 1887 to Mary M. Reed, by whom he has one child, born in 1888, now living on his father's farm. Mr. Hellmueller owns eighty acres of land on section 35, Union township, where he carries on general farming and stock raising. He has a god farm and some well kept buildings. A Republican in politics, he has been honored with several public offices, including those of school clerk, school treasurer and assessor, being also a member of the town board at one time. He is greatly respected in the community wherein he resides, being both progressive and successful. It is worthy of note that Joseph Hellmueller and his four sons were the first permanent white settlers on Plum Creek, Wis. Others have been there in the early days, but the Hellmuellers were the first ones who stayed there.

**Albert Ingli** was born in 1865 in the state of Illinois, son of Dominick and Mary C. (Ammann) Ingli, both natives of Switzerland, who are now deceased, having passed away in Plum City. They came to Pierce county in 1865 and settled in Maiden Rock township, where the father remained for some time on a farm, afterward conducting a hotel at Plum City for thirteen years, subsequently retiring. Dominick and Mary C. were the parents of four children—Albert; Mary, now Mrs. Frank Claus, living in Maiden Rock township; Louise, married to John Glaus, also of Maiden Rock; A. J., of Ellsworth, now in the insurance business, was county superintendent of Pierce county for some years. Albert received a limited education in Maiden Rock township, where he came with his parents at the age of six months. For many years he engaged in farming in this county, also working at the sawmill business. For two years he was employed by a

grocery concern in St. Louis, Mo., and was lumber inspector for ten years. In 1903 he opened a furniture and undertaking establishment in Plum City, in which business he has since been engaged with considerable success. He also engages in the insurance business and is a notary public. For the past five years he has served with much credit as town clerk. Mr. Ingli was married in 1904 to Mary Olson, a native of Sweden, to whom two children were born—Theodore Albert, born June 6, 1905, died April 11, 1907, while Irvin Willard, the next child, was born February 6, 1907, died February 18, 1907.

**Lewis H. Leach** was born in Trim Belle township, Pierce county, Wisconsin, October 16, 1874, son of Benjamin L. and Belinda (Taylor) Leach, the former of whom was born in New York, July 15, 1827, and the latter August 8, 1832, in Illinois, that also being the state where they were united in marriage. Benjamin was a cooper by trade. In the early days he took up a claim at Ellsworth, near Tucker Corner, being one of the earliest settlers, Mrs. Leach's father, Daniel Taylor, also being one of the first white residents of the county. March 1, 1865, Benjamin enlisted in the Thirty-eighth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He passed away, August 13, 1906, at Diamond Bluff, Pierce county. Benjamin and Belinda had eleven children, six of whom are now alive. William was born September 24, 1851, and took up the business of farming, dying at Ellsworth, Wis., October 20, 1905. Daniel E. was born March 20, 1854, and is engaged in the mercantile business at Ellsworth. Frank was born March 26, 1858, and lives in St. Paul. James N. was born March 26, 1860, and follows the trade of mason, living at Trim Belle township. Alfred W. was born May 20, 1862, and died April 11, 1865. Elmer E. was born in 1864 and died the same year. Merina was born April 8, 1865, married William Cornman and lives at Ellsworth. Athelbert, born August 27, 1867, is in the mercantile business at Diamond Bluff. Clarabell was born May 4, 1870, married John Taylor and lives at Hager. Lewis obtained his education in the schools of Trim Belle township and started out for himself at the age of twenty-two years. In 1898 he engaged in business at Porcupine, Wis., and in 1900 he came to Plum City, where he has since remained, being engaged in the general merchandise business. He is a Republican in politics and is highly regarded by all whom he has dealings with. Mr. Leach was married in 1905 to Helen Churchill, daughter of George and Mary (Finnegan) Churchill, the former of whom was well known in Pierce county, coming to the county in 1885 and residing in Union township until his death in 1897. The widow still survives, making her home in Plum City. Mr. and Mrs. Leach have one child, Louise, born April 11, 1906.

**Lester Marsh** is a native of Dodge county, Wisconsin, born in 1857, son of Charles and Pleidas (Plum) Marsh. The former was born in 1813 at Bennington, Vt., settled in Union township, Pierce county, in 1859, and removed to Burnett county in 1886, where he still resides. He is a cooper by trade, but has for many years devoted the larger part of his attention to farming. His wife was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, in 1843, and died in August of 1908. Unto them were born eight children —Ida is now Mrs. Campbell, of Barron, Wis.; Rolla lives in Burnett county; Lester was the third child; William lives in Burnett county; Lexe, now Mrs. Rowley, lives in the state of Washington; Charles, Glenni and Floyd live in Burnett county. Lester was educated in the common schools and at the age of twenty-two years started in life for himself. For fourteen years he engaged in milling and carpentering until 1894, when he started in the hardware business at Ono, in which business he has since continued with much success. Aside from his store, he owns ten acres on section 6, Union township, where he makes his home. He is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Foresters and the Odd Fellows. Mr. Marsh was married in 1881 to Fannie E. Thomas, at that time a resident of Union township. Unto them have been born six children—Grace was born in 1882, graduated from the Ellsworth High School and is now a school teacher, living at home; Vernon, born in 1887, is an estimator and contractor, living at La Crosse, Wis.; Bessie, born in 1885, lives at home; Lena, born in 1889, also lives at home; Roy, born in 1891, attends the Ellsworth High School; Bernice, born in 1896, is still a student in the common schools. Lena graduated from the Spring Valley High School and teaches school.

**Arthur W. Ogilvie,** for thirty years justice of the peace in Pierce county, Wisconsin, and McLeod county, Minnesota, not only bears an honorable Civil war record himself, but also comes of old fighting stock. His grandfather on his mother's side fought with Wellington at the battle of Waterloo, and his grandfather on his father's side fought in the American Revolution on the side of the British, being a native of Scotland and an officer of a Highland regiment stationed in South Carolina. William, brother of the subject of this sketch, served on the Mississippi for four years during the Civil war as pilot in the fleet of Admiral Foote. He was at Shiloh when the fleet saved the day for the union forces. The subject of this sketch was born January 18, 1833, in the province of Nova Scotia, Canada, son of Peter and Anna (Roberts) Ogilvie, the former of whom was born December 25, 1800, and died in 1873, and the latter of whom was born in 1802 and died in 1873. They were of Scottish descent, but were born, lived and died in Nova Scotia, being the

parents of seventeen children—John was born May 8, 1822; William H. was born October 25, 1823; Thomas and George, both now deceased, were born August 27, 1825; Unus was born March 9, 1827; Peter was born November 28, 1829, and was for many years a foreman in the Brooklyn navy yard; Joseph was born March 25, 1831; Arthur W. came next; Elijah was born June 27, 1835, and is now deceased; Sarah was born August 12, 1837, and is now deceased; Richard was born April 8, 1839, and is now deceased; Elizabeth was born December 9, 1840; James F. was born June 4, 1842; Herbert was born April 3, 1845, while Charles was born November 20, 1847. Three died in infancy. Arthur W. received his education in the common schools of Nova Scotia. In 1857 he settled in McLeod county, Minnesota, remaining there until 1876, when he came to Pierce county and located on section 15 in Salem township, remaining until 1906, when he removed to section 6, Union township, purchasing two and one-half acres, but still retaining a farm of 120 acres in Salem township. In 1865 he enlisted in Company K, Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served under General Sherman until the close of the war. He is a Prohibitionist in politics, a member of the Methodist church and formerly affiliated with the Good Templars and the Grange. Mr. Ogilvie was married when twenty-two years of age to Margaret Chisolm, born in 1835. By this union eight children were born—William F., born in 1856, lives on section 6, Union township; Anna, born May 2, 1858, lives in Oregon; Seymour, born January 18, 1861, is a carpenter in Portland, Ore.; Walter H., born October 28, 1862, is a veterinary surgeon in Wisconsin; Edith C. was born October 11, 1864, and died June 15, 1866; Woodworth B., born February 22, 1867, lives in Portland, Ore., and is a carpenter; Margaret, born September 1, 1868, lives at Portland, Ore.; Sarah Janett, born March 9, 1872, died October 18, 1895. Mrs. Margaret Ogilvie died in 1872 in Minnesota, and Mr. Ogilvie was married in 1875 to Sarah Blaker, a resident of Red Wing, Minn. She died in 1888. In 1892 Mr. Ogilvie married Ella Andrews, born July 14, 1856. Five children have been born—Hiram, born October 8, 1893; Clara E., born January 7, 1895; Herbert, born March 19, 1896, and died June 14, 1896; Floyd, born February 4, 1898, and Joseph, born September 2, 1900, and died October 10, 1900.

**August Schwedes** is a native of Bremen, Germany, born February 24, 1867, son of John Henry and Caroline (Debus) Schwedes, the former of whom was born in 1828 and died in 1905, and the latter of whom first saw the light of day in 1828 and passed away in March, 1905. They were the parents of seven children—Sophia married Fritz Miller, a commission merchant who lives in Bremen, Germany, having been born in 1856

and married in 1877. The next four are dead. The sixth was August and the seventh, Rosine, born in 1870, is the wife of M. Beiwend, a well-known musician of Germany. August received his eduaction in his native country and served as an apprentice for two years as a locksmith in Bremen. In 1883 he came to the United States, settling first at Fort Plain, N. Y., remaining for five years. After returning to the old country and remaining seven months he again came to this country, and subsequent to a year spent in New York, settled in Wabasha, Minn., finally in 1890 coming to Plum City, where he has since remained. While in Wabasha he was clerk in a general merchandise store and upon coming to Pierce county he continued the same occupation, also being superintendent of a lumber enterprise. In 1899 he built a fine store and started in the hardware business for himself, the business being now on the high wave of prosperity. Mr. Schwedes is a Republican in politics, became treasurer of Union township in 1904 and has been a director of his school district for three years. He was married in 1900 to Nellie Istas, born in 1880, a resident of Plum City at the time of her marriage. Her mother is of German-Austrian ancestry and is still living. Her father, Mr. Istas, was a Belgian. Mr. and Mrs. Schwedes have been blessed with two children—Harry, born in 1901, and Bernice, born in 1904. Mr. Schwedes is of pure German stock.

## CHAPTER XL.

## ST. CROIX COUNTY.

**Important Agricultural Community—Progressive and Prosperous—Present Townships—Surface, Soil and Character of Citizens—Early History—Originally Covered a Wide Territory—Early Courts—Early Justice—Material Prepared With Assistance of Hon. H. C. Baker.**

Although St. Croix county contains several cities and many flourishing villages, it is important principally as an agricultural locality, and its rich acres of dark clayey loam so well adapted to the raising of grass, grain and root crops, and its rolling surface admirably suited to the pasturage of stock have contributed not a little to the general prosperity of the state. It is one of the wealthiest agricultural counties of the Northwest, and poverty within its borders is almost unknown. The villages which were originally the sites of sawmills are now the shipping points for grain, vegetables, stock, fruit and dairy products, and a larger part of even the smallest hamlets have grain elevators, flouring mills, creameries and cheese factories. Although the lumber boom is now over and passed, the larger settlements all have lumber yards, and in several of the cities the milling of lumber still constitutes an important industry. The greater part of the county is now developed, few large tracts of wild or wood land remaining. Well kept roads bring the farms seemingly nearer to the villages, and the railroads which cross the county here and there place even the remotest places in close connection with the cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis on one side and Superior and Duluth on the other. Telephone lines also form a network of communication throughout the county, and aside from the main lines many local lines have been established for the use of the various neighborhoods. The schools rank high, and this, together with the excellent climate, makes the county an ideal place for the bringing up of sturdy children. Churches point their steeples upward from every hamlet, and meeting halls where lectures and entertainments are given in the winter time show that the higher life of the community has not been forgotten.

The county as at present constituted contains twenty-one townships—Baldwin, organized in 1872; Cady, organized in

1870; Cylon, organized in 1859; Eau Galle, organized 1858; Emerald, organized in 1861; Erin, organized in 1858; Forest, organized in 1881; Glenwood, organized in 1885; Hudson, organized in 1849; Hammond, organized in 1856; Kinnickinnic, organized in 1857; Pleasant Valley, organized in 1851; Rush River, organized in 1851; Richmond, organized in 1857; Springfield, organized in 1860; Somerset, organized in 1856; St. Joseph, organized in 1858; Star Prairie, organized in 1856; Stanton, organized in 1870; Troy, organized in 1851, and Warren, organized in 1860. These townships form a parallelogram with slight irregularities on the east and west. Somerset, St. Joseph, Hudson and Troy lie along Lake St. Croix, rising for the most part in gentle, rounded bluffs from the water and rolling to the westward in rich farm land. Somerset, Star Prairie, Stanton, Cylon and Forest border on Polk county at the north; Forest, Glenwood, Springfield and Cady, along Dunn county on the east, and Cady, Eau Galle, Rush River, Pleasant Valley, Kinnickinnic and Troy, along Pierce county on the south, while Hammond, Erin, Emerald, Warren, Richmond and Baldwin form the center tiers. The eastern portions are comparatively level and were originally heavily wooded, forming some years ago a portion of the territory then known as the "Big Woods." The early settlers for the most part settled in these woods and cleared and broke the land.

Nature has afforded excellent drainage and watering facilities and the soil is kept in the best condition the year around without the aid of artificial irrigation. The larger rivers are the St. Croix and its tributaries, Apple, Willow and Kinnickinnic on the east and Rush river on the west. Of these tributaries Apple river is the largest and in the early days was the scene of extensive logging operations. It rises in Polk county, where it is supplied by numerous lakes; enters St. Croix county and passes diagonally across the northwestern corner and empties into St. Croix lake, above Stillwater. This river passes through a deep gorge in the limestone rock a few miles above its mouth, falling in its passage over several ledges of rock, producing falls far famed for their wildness and grandeur. Kinnickinnic river, in the southern part of the county, is also noted for its beautiful scenery and for its waterfalls. It passes from St. Croix county into Pierce county and then uniting with its southern branch, flows into Lake St. Croix. Rush river rises in Eau Galle and turns, thence flowing into Lake Pepin. These streams are unfailing, owing to their supplies from numerous springs and small lakes. Several small lakes in different parts of the county are well supplied with fish. The Bass, Twin, Bell, Perch and Cedar

lakes are fine little bodies of water and furnish desirable resorts for the tourist.

While the soil is deep, the substrata of limestone crops out in many places, and has been quarried to a more or less degree for building purposes. One of the picture places of the county, aside from the never failing beauty and picturesqueness of Lake St. Croix and its surroundings, is a remarkable formation in the southern part of the county in the Kinnickinnic valley. This picturesque spot is known as the Monument and consists of a ledge of pure white sandstone rock, nearly circular and rising to a height of about sixty feet. It stands on a natural elevation and thus forms a very conspicuous object. The base is forty or fifty feet wide and the summit is turret shaped, about fifteen feet wide. The part upon which the turret rests is dome shaped, being worn into deep furrows by the rains of many ages. Years ago a solitary tree grew upon the summit, but after a brave fight succumbed to the elements. The Monument itself is being gradually worn away by the action of wind and rain and weather.

Although there are in the county many new settlers who have been attracted by the wealth of the valley and who have even after short residence here already become loyal sons of the county, the residents of the county are for the most part ones whose fathers and grandfathers settled here in the early days, a few of the old pioneers themselves still remaining to tell the story of the hardships endured in paving the way for the present prosperity. The sons of the county are out in the world, making a success of nearly every vocation in life, some of them having attained world-wide fame, but for the most part there have always been one or more sons who have remained upon the old farms with their parents and taken possession of them upon the latter's death, and in the majority of cases the farms are still owned by the descendants of those who first pre-empted the land or bought it of the government. The people are a sturdy, honest and hard-working race, ones who know what hardships are, and who because of this knowledge all the more appreciate the benefits of modern conveniences. The people believe in education and the farmers of the county are every day making sacrifices that their children may be kept in school and thus acquire a good education. In nationality the Americans from the east, the Irish, the Norwegians, Swedes, Hollanders, Danes and Germans predominate. There is also a sprinkling of English and French with a few Swiss.

The early history of St. Croix county is identical with the history of the St. Croix valley. For centuries the region was a wilderness of unbroken solitude save for the crashing of some

old monarch of the forest as it fell to the ground, the ripple of the brooks, the roar of the waterfalls, the sweep of the cyclone or the war-whoop of the Indians. While the sturdy Puritans, the gay cavaliers, the grave Quakers, the devout Catholics, the rigorous Wesleyans and the commercial Hollanders were peopling the Atlantic coast, the rich land of the St. Croix valley lay unbroken, and untraversed by white men save for an occasional French explorer or trader or a dark-robed Jesuit going from Indian camp to Indian camp preaching the gospel to which his life was devoted. In 1819 the valley was placed under the jurisdiction of Crawford county, Michigan, although at that time no limits were definitely defined, and little was known about the locality. There were no white inhabitants save Indian traders, these often being of the lowest sort and worse than the Indians themselves. In 1836 the territory of Wisconsin was organized, comprising a vast region west of the great lakes, including the present states of Wisconsin, Minnesota, a part of Michigan and much of Iowa. St. Croix valley, being included in this region, thus became a part of Wisconsin instead of Michigan. About this time, following treaties between the United States and the Indian tribes, settlement started and a few families located in the valley, for the most part lumbermen, as the agricultural possibilities of the valley were not then realized. The real organization of St. Croix county as a county dates from January 9, 1840, when Joseph R. Brown succeeded in getting the measure through the legislature, of which he was a member, sitting as a delegate from the northern part of Crawford county. It is with this organization that the real history of the St. Croix Valley starts.

The act was to take effect August 1 of the same year, and designated the borders of the vast territory which was to be included within the county limits. The county as designated embraced a part of Pepin, Dunn and Chippewa counties, and Bayfield, Douglas, Burnett, Barron, Polk and Pierce counties, as well as a part of Minnesota, and formed the whole western boundary of the territory, from what was then called Porcupine river, on Lake Pepin, on a line running west, and on the north to Montreal river, and from the Montreal river west into Minnesota.

On the first Monday in August, 1840, an election was authorized. A vote was to determine the location of the county seat. Two places struggled for the distinction—"Prescott's Claim," at the lower end of Lake St. Croix, and "Brown's Warehouse," at the upper end of the lake, the present site of Stillwater. The polls were opened at two points—the Falls of Chaumakan, on the St. Croix, and at La Pointe. Some idea of

the extent of the population at that time, or the interest manifested in the election, may be realized by remembering that the whole number of votes polled was fifty-eight, forty-five being for Brown's Warehouse and thirteen for Prescott's Claim. The returns were made to the clerk of the county commissioners of Crawford county at Prairie du Chien. Hazen Mooers, Samuel Burkleo and Calvin A. Tuttle were chosen commissioners. The tract of land described in J. R. Brown's claim was sold to him by the commissioners for $800 cash, reserving one-half acre for county purposes. Arrangements were also made with Mr. Brown to furnish suitable buildings for the use of the county for four years. At this election the county officers chosen were Joseph R. Brown, treasurer; register of deeds and surveyor, Orange Walker; Joseph Haskell and Philander Prescott, assessors; Phineas Lawrence, collector, and J. S. Norris, coroner. C. J. Learned, of Crawford county, certified to the election. In April, 1844, an act was approved making the county a probate district and appointing Philip Aldrich judge. In 1845 the county was reduced in size by creating the county of La Pointe, leaving it with 11,000 square miles and the Mississippi as the western boundary. The population was then estimated at 1,500—one person in seven and one-third square miles.

A settler who came up the river about this time thus describes St. Croix county as it was when he came here. "The shores were as yet almost without inhabitants. On the east bank below the mouth of the Willow river, where Hudson is now situated, were three log houses owned by Peter Bouchea, Joseph Manesse and Louis Massey. On the high hill west nearly opposite the Willow river stood the farm house of Elam Greeley. Paul Carli had a home at the mouth of the Bolles creek, on the west side of the lake; there were a few French residents also on the west side, and on the same side within view of what is now Stillwater stood the residence of John Allen. With the exception of these few dwellings the shores of the lake were untouched by the hand of man and were spread before us in all their primitive beauty. There were gently rounded hills, sloping to the water's edge and crowned with groves of shrubby oak, amidst which, especially at the outlet of the streams into the lake, the darker pines stood out in bold relief."

When in 1846 Congress passed an act permitting the territory of Wisconsin to become a state on condition that the people would adopt a constitution and accept certain boundary lines, there was considerable opposition in the St. Croix valley to the suggestion that the St. Croix and not the Mississippi should be the western boundary for the upper part of the state. And in the constitutional convention of 1847 a vigorous effort was made

to have this line changed. The delegate from St. Croix county was William Holcombe, and he was chairman of the committee to consider this question. In his report it was urged that the line should be the middle of the Mississippi. This line was not accepted by Congress, but in 1848 Wisconsin with her present state borders was organized. The boundary on the west was formed by a line running directly south from the rapids of the St. Louis river to the main branch of the St. Croix river, thence down the main channel of the stream to the Mississippi. Previous to this, in 1846, the territorial legislature had added to the election precincts already established at Gray Cloud, mouth of the St. Croix, Marine Mills, falls of the St. Croix and Pokegama two more, St. Paul and Stillwater, the latter being designated as the county seat, in accordance with the vote of 1840, which had located the county seat as "Brown's Warehouse," which later became Stillwater. In 1847 the county was endowed with judicial functions and all the rights of other counties. W. H. Crosby once stated that he voted in the territory and state of Wisconsin and the territory and state of Minnesota, at the same place and in the same box, all within a few year, his residence being at Stillwater.

It will thus be seen that the locating of the boundary line in the channel of St. Croix river and lake left St. Croix county without a county seat and destroyed her organization. It thus became necessary for the county to have a new county seat, which requirement was met by the legislature in an act approved June 8, 1848, which located it at the mouth of the Willow river on sections 4 and 5. In August, 1848, the act was amended by locating it on section 24, the present site of Hudson, requiring that the courts be held in some house in that section until special buildings should be erected.

The same year the last court was held at Stillwater, as the county seat of St. Croix county. Judge Aaron Goodrich presided. Harvey Wilson was clerk; H. M. Mitchell, United States district attorney; H. L. Moss, attorney for the county, and John Morgan, sheriff. In August of the same year a special election was held to elect officers for the new county. The first board of county commissioners met at the house of Philip Aldrich on September 9, 1848, commissioners present, Ammah Andrews and W. H. Morse. Ammah Andrews was appointed chairman of the board, W. R. Anderson clerk. On motion Philip Aldrich was appointed treasurer of the county. It was voted to establish a new voting precinct. All that part of the county lying south of a line running east of the mouth of the Kinnickinnic to the east line of the county was formed into a new election precinct, entitled the mouth of the St. Croix precinct, thus forming four

voting precincts in the county, namely: Kinnickinnic river, Willow river, Osceola and Falls of St. Croix. It was voted at the same meeting that the scroll of the pen should denote the seal of the county. At a meeting of the county commissioners called at the house of Philip Aldrich, October 2, 1848, Harmon Crandall in the chair, on motion, Moses Perrin was appointed collector for St. Croix county. At the same meeting it was voted that the retailers of liquors shall pay for license $20 and not be allowed to retail less than one quart; it was also voted that the rate of taxation should be seven mills on the dollar; also voted by the board to accept and locate a certain lot of land donated by Philip Aldrich and designated on the plot of the town of Beuna Vista—afterward known as Hudson—surveyed and platted by H. Wilson for the purpose of erecting county buildings thereon.

Philip Aldrich was appointed commissioner in 1848 to locate the state school lands in St. Croix county, at that time including Polk and Pierce counties. It is said that Dr. Aldrich would climb to the summits of the highest mountains and casting his eyes east, west, north and south, would proclaim such and such numbers or sections as school lands. Where all were so arable and fertile there was no use in discriminating.

In the early times, with Prairie du Chien as the nearest seat of justice, and only a single magistrate, with a limited jurisdiction, it is easy to believe that justice was often dispensed with in a most remarkable way. At one time a man made an assault upon another and beat him to a jelly, as the witnesses testified. This was up the river some seventy-five miles. The man was arrested and the complaining witness came down with a party of his friends. They procured five gallons of whisky, and went down to Cottage Grove to try the case before Esquire J. S. Norris. The court was duly opened, a jury of six men empaneled, and, about the time the jug was empty, a verdict was found fining the man $300 and costs, or, in default, to go to jail at Prairie du Chien. The prisoner had no money, and, as it would cost the county at least $100 to get him down there, the finding was finally changed to placing the man under bonds to keep the peace for one year in the penal sum of $300, and the complaining witness and the justice jointly went on the bond! thus patriotically saving the county the expense of further proceedings.

In the year 1849, and for several years, Hudson seemed destined to outstrip St. Paul as a metropolis of the Northwest, on account of the obstruction of the navigation of the Mississippi at "Pig's Eye" Bar. Minnesota was organized as a Territory in March, 1849, and the village of Hudson, being on the Wisconsin side of the river, the residence of the Governor was established at St. Paul, and Hudson, with all its advantages of river com-

munications, was comparatively lost sight of by men seeking homes in that region. A land office was established in Hudson in 1849, F. P. Catlin, register, M. S. Gibson, receiver, John O. Henning was afterward receiver and Dr. Otis Hoyt, register. In 1861, the office was removed to the Falls of St. Croix. There were twenty tax-payers in 1849, owning property valued at $4,949, and eighteen voters only could be mustered. The assessment roll a few years later was, 1852, $25,513; 1853, $32,238; 1855, $45,000; 1856, $140,000.

## CHAPTER XLI.

## EARLY HISTORY.

**Early Officers—Setting Off of the Townships—Business Transacted by the Early County Boards—Ferry Across Lake St. Croix—Separation of Polk and Pierce Counties—Building of Court House—General Story of Early Days—Present Schools of St. Croix County.**

At the state election held November 1, 1848, there were one hundred and fifteen votes cast in the county of St. Croix for electors for president and vice president, Zachary Taylor, Martin Van Buren and Lewis Cass being candidates that year. The first officers elected under the state legislature by the legal voters of the then existing St. Croix county were as follows: A Hayatt Smith, member of Congress; E. E. Williams, superintendent of schools for the state; and James Fisher, state senator. For member of assembly, Joseph R. Brown; county commissioners, W. H. C. Morse, Harmon Crandall and Ammah Andrews; county clerk, W. Richardson; register of deeds, W. R. Anderson; judge of probate, A. D. Heaton; coroner, W. O. Mahoney; county treasurer, Philip Aldrich; surveyor of logs and lumber, A. S. Youle; assessors, Geo. W. McMurphy, O. Weymouth and M. V. Nobles; road supervisors, Edward Worth, H. Crandall, Moses Perrin and L. M. Hamsberger; collector, Geo. W. McMurphy, the "Mouth of St. Croix precinct;" W. Thing and I. R. Rice, justices of the peace; A. Cornelison and L. M. Harnsberger, constables. At Willow River precinct, justice of the peace, Philip Aldrich and E. R. Steves; constables, J. McKnight and P. F. Bouchea; Osceola and Falls of St. Croix precinct, John Davis, Andrew Kelley and S. S. Crowell, justices; R. H. Hughes, John Weymouth and Geo. E. Deathey, constables. Three licenses were granted that year: F. Larpenter, mouth of St. Croix store; Geo. Field at the Falls of St. Croix; M. M. Samuels, at the Falls of the St. Croix tavern. At the same election in the representative district of St. Croix and La Pointe fifty-three votes were cast for member of the assembly; W. R. Marshall received thirty-four.

At a meeting of the county commissioners held at the house of Philip Aldrich the first Monday in January, 1849, a license was granted to Philip Aldrich to run a ferry across Lake St.

Croix at a point any place on the northwest half of section twenty-five, south of Walnut street, it being the south boundary of the present plat of the village of Buena Vista. The rates to be charged for ferriage were regulated by law as follows: Footman twenty-five cents, horse and rider seventy-five cents, horse, driver and single buggy one dollar, one span of horses with wagon or buggy one dollar and twenty-five cents, wagon with four horses or wagon with four oxen and driver one dollar and fifty cents; horned cattle, mules or horses, twenty-five cents each; sheep or swine, twelve and a half cents each; lumber, for one thousand feet, thirty-seven and a half cents; all kinds of freight, eight cents per hundred pounds.

At a meeting of the board at the house of Philip Aldrich, February 28, 1849, the county of St. Croix was divided into towns as follows: All that portion of the county lying north of the south boundary of township No. 28 north, and south of the line between No. 28 north, and south of the line between Nos. 30 and 31, shall comprise one town, named "Buena Vista;" and all that portion of the county lying north of the south boundary of township 31 north, shall compose one town, called "Falls of St. Croix;" all that portion of the county lying south of the line between township Nos. 27 and 28 north, shall compose a town to be known by the name of "Elizabeth."

At the same meeting it was voted to purchase a lot of ground for county purposes lying due east of block No. 3 of the original plat of Buena Vista, containing one acre from Moses Perrin, receiving from said Moses Perrin a bond for a deed, the conditions of which were that the county commissioners or their successors in office pay or cause to be paid to said Perrin, on or before March 1, 1850, the sum of $53.50.

Also voted that the first town meeting shall be held in the several towns, viz: The town of Elizabeth, at the house of Freeman Larpenter; the town of Buena Vista, at the house of Philip Aldrich; the town of Falls of St. Croix, at the house of J. McLaughlin.

The result of the first county election by towns, at which ninety votes were cast, was as follows: Sheriff, N. C. D. Taylor; district attorney, S. J. Hewett; county surveyor, R. V. D. Smith; clerk of the circuit court, J. D. Ludden.

At a meeting of the county board of supervisors for St. Croix county, held at the house of Philip Aldrich, June 4, 1849, it was voted to authorize the clerk to issue a license to W. H. Moses to run a ferry across Lake St. Croix for the term of three years. He, the said Moses, to comply with the law in such cases made and provided. Also a tax was voted for the current expenses of

the present year of 10 mills on the dollar. It was voted at the same meeting that the treasurer proceed against persons elected to office in the several towns, also county, who failed to qualify at a meeting of the justices and clerk of county board of supervisors, September 17, 1849, to canvass the vote for county judge at the election held September 3. Ninety-one votes were canvassed, of which Hamlet H. Perkins received 49, Joel Foster 41, and Bailey F. Baldwin 1.

Hamlet H. Perkins, though elected to the office of county judge, did not fill the position, in consequence of the sad calamity of his death, which happened by drowning during the winter following his election. Mr. Perkins was a lumberman, and had received the support of this class of people at the election. During the winter he broke through the ice while engaged on the river, and thus met an untimely end. Accordingly Governor Dewey, first governor of the state of Wisconsin, made out a commission with an appointment, and sent at once to Mr. Foster, who had received the next largest number of votes at the previous election, by the support of the farmers, to come to Hudson and take charge of the first court. Joel Foster by this means obtained the office and continued to discharge its duties until the separation of Polk and Pierce counties.

At an election held November 6, 1849, the following was the result: Whole number of votes cast, 69; John S. Watrous, member of assembly; Joseph R. Brown, clerk of circuit court; Sylvander Partridge, sheriff; D. N. Johnson, prosecuting attorney; Alex S. Youle, surveyor of logs and lumber. At a special meeting called at the house of Philip Aldrich, May 25, 1850, it was voted to appoint James Hough district attorney in place of D. N. Johnson, resigned; also John O. Henning, county surveyor. In view of the fact that there was no suitable place for holding court and for other county purposes, it was voted that a committee be appointed to make arrangements for a suitable building for such purposes, also for the confinement of county prisoners. The committee appointed was James Hughes and J. M. Bailey.

At an election held the first Monday in July, 1850, for the election of judge for the Sixth judicial district, 130 votes were cast, of which Wiram Knowlton received seventy-four. At an election held November 5, 1850, the following was the result: 152 votes cast; Benjamin C. Eastman, member of congress; Joseph R. Brown, senator; John O. Henning, member of assembly; W. R. Anderson, register of deeds; W. R. Anderson, county surveyor; James M. Bailey, clerk county board of commissioners; W. H. Simmes, district attorney; James Purinton, coroner; J. W. Jones, county treasurer; James Hughes, surveyor of logs and lumber.

In 1850 the value of real estate and personal property in three towns and one village, which composed the county of St. Croix, was: Elizabeth town, 522 acres of land, assessed at $3,930; personal property, $11,281; amount of taxes, state and county, $310.31; Buena Vista town, 3,100 acres of land, assessed at $31,765; personal property, $2,430; taxes, $697.56; village of Buena Vista, real estate, 105 lots, assessed at $7,164; personal property, $130; taxes, $148.80; Falls of St. Croix town, 1,531 acres of land, assessed at $19,425; personal property, $83,497; taxes, $2,099.61. The population of St. Croix county in 1850 was 624.

At the annual meeting of the county board, held November 15, 1850, Otis Hoyt was fined $50 for non-attendance at the meeting of the board, but the action was rescinded at a subsequent meeting on his making due explanation of the cause of his absence. At a special meeting of the board, held at the court house January 15, 1851, a petition was presented by the citizens of Kinnickinnic valley desiring to be set off into a separate town. After due deliberation it was voted to grant said petition, the boundary of said town to be as follows: Beginning at the northwest corner of section 3, in township 28 north, range 19 west, and running east along said township line to the east boundary of said county; thence south to the line between townships 26 and 27 north; thence west along said line to the center of township 27, range 19; thence north to place of beginning; which town shall be called Kinnickinnic; the first town meeting to be held at the house of Joel Foster. At the same meeting the board voted to erect a building for the use of the county, as a temporary prison. Mr. Ammah Andrews was appointed agent to carry out the same, with specifications given. During the session of the legislature of 1851, John O. Henning prepared a bill, which was passed, changing the name of the town of Buena Vista, and all villages therein, to Willow River; also the village of Elizabeth and town changed to Prescott. At a meeting of the county board, held at the village of Willow River, Otis Hoyt was called to the chair. It appeared at this meeting that Ammah Andrews had failed to fulfill his contract with the county to build a jail.

The board voted to rescind said contract, also voted to appoint Daniel Mears to build said jail after different specifications; said jail to be located on the grounds of the county. At an adjourned meeting of the board, held November 13, 1852, a petition was presented, signed by Joseph E. Bonin and others, asking for a new town to be set off from Kinnickinnic, and granted, the boundary of said town to be as follows: Commencing at the northwest corner of section 4, township 28 north, range 17 west; thence east on township line, between townships 28 and 29, north to the

eastern boundary of the county; thence down the county line to the township line between the townships 26 and 27 north; thence west along the township line, between the townships 26 and 27 north, to the southwest corner of section 33, in township 27 north, of range 17 west; thence north to the place of beginning; said town to be known by the name of Rush River. It was further ordered that the first town meeting be held at the house of Daniel McCartney. At an adjourned meeting of the board, November 15, it was voted to appropriate $350 to build a jail. At an annual meeting of the county board, held at the office of Joseph Bowron, November 9, 1852, the following petition was presented, signed by Aaron Chase and others, desiring a new town to be set off from the town of Falls of St. Croix. On motion the petition was granted, with the following boundaries, viz: Commencing at the southwest corner of fractional township 31, of range 19; thence east to township line, between 14 and 15; thence north to township line, between 31 and 32; thence east to the east line of St. Croix county; thence north to township line, between 33 and 34; thence west on said lines to St. Croix river; thence down said river to the place of beginning; said town to be known by the name of Leroy. The first town meeting to be held at the house of W. Kent. At the same meeting of the county board a petition was presented by A. Day and others asking that the name of the town of Willow River, and the villages therein contained be changed, to be hereafter known by the name of Hudson. Since the people were dissatisfied with the old name, they voted two to one for the change, after Day had the honor of suggesting the new name. By an act of the legislature, March, 1853, all that portion of St. Croix county lying south of the line between townships 27 and 28 was set off as Pierce county. By the same act all that portion of St. Croix county lying north of the line between townships 31 and 32 was set off as Polk county, leaving a strip of territory between Polk and Pierce counties twenty-four miles wide and thirty miles long, which was then known as St. Croix county, with seat established at Hudson.

At a special meeting of the board of supervisors called at Hudson, July 2, 1850, with Duncan McGregor in the chair, on motion of Ira Parks, it was voted to annex that portion of the town of Leroy, in St. Croix county, lying between the south line of Polk county and north line of Hudson, to the town of Hudson.

At a meeting of the county board held June 15, 1855, it was voted to purchase and adopt a seal for said county board of supervisors, described as follows: "C. B. S., St. Croix County, Wisconsin," to be used as the seal of the board of supervisors of said county. At a subsequent meeting of the board, held July 23, 1856, a petition was presented by B. C. B. Foster and others

asking the organization of a new town to be known and called Star Prairie; said town to consist of the following described territory: Commencing at the northeast corner of section 1, township 30, range 27, and running west a distance of 118 chains and 40 links; thence north on the east of township 31, range 17, a distance of 482 chains and 10 links; thence west along the north line of township 31, a distance of 960 chains; thence south along the west line of township 31, range 18, a distance of 480 chains; thence east along the south line of township 30 a distance of 125 chains and 67 links; thence south along the west line of township 30, range 18, a distance of 240 chains and 50 links; thence east through the center of township 30, ranges 17 and 18, a distance of 961 chains, and 80 links; thence north along the east line of township 30, range 17, a distance of 243 chains and 37 links, to place of beginning. That is to say, all of the township 31, ranges 17 and 18, and the north one-half of township 30, ranges 17 and 18; the first town meeting to be held for organization and election of officers at the home of B. C. B. Foster.

At a special meeting of the board, called at the clerk's office, September 19, 1850, the following petition was presented from the towns of Rush River and Kinnickinnic, asking for the formation of a new town, with the following boundaries, viz: the east half of township 28, range 18, and the west half of township 28, range 17; said town to be called Pleasant Valley; the first town meeting to be held at the house of Davidson Williams, on the first Monday in October, 1850. A second petition was granted for a new town to be called Somerset, comprising the following territory, viz.: Commencing at the northwest corner of the town of Star Prairie, running thence west to the St. Croix river; thence down said river, and Lake St. Croix, to the south line of section 15, township 30, range 20; thence east to the southeast corner of Star Prairie to place of beginning; the meeting for the organization and election of officers to be held at the house of Mr. Chaples, on the first Monday in October. At the same meeting a petition for the organization of the town of Hammond was presented with the following boundaries: All of township 29, ranges 15, 16 and 17. The meeting for the election of officers and the organization of the town was ordered held at the store of George Spaulding.

While the board was in session the question of building a new court house was discussed. On motion it was voted to advertise for sealed bids or proposals to build said court house. At a meeting of the board, held October 27, 1856, it was voted to change the boundary line of Kinnickinnic and Pleasant Valley town, by taking from the west end of Pleasant Valley two miles by six, and adding it to the town of Kinnickinnic.

At a meeting of the board, held November 13, 1856, it was voted to award the contract of building the court house for St. Croix county to Ammah Andrews on condition that he would build said house according to the proposals now before the board, for $14,300. At an adjourned meeting, held November 14, 1856, it was voted to form a new town from township 28, range 18, said town to be called Dayton; the first meeting for the organization and choice of officers to be held on the first Tuesday in April, 1857, at the schoolhouse in District No. 2.

At the same meeting, November 14, 1856, it was voted to add the west half of township 28, range 19, and all that part of the fractional township running to Lake St. Croix, of township 28, range 20, of Hudson, to Kinnickinnic. At a meeting of the board, held March 25, 1857, it was voted to change the name of the town of Dayton to Malone. December 9, of the same year, the inhabitants of Erin Prairie presented a petition to the board asking the formation of a new town, with the following boundaries, viz: All of township No. 30, ranges 15 and 16, and the south half of township No. 30, range 17. At the same meeting petitions were presented asking for the formation of a new town with the following boundaries: All of township 30, range 18, to be known as Cold Springs. It was also voted to attach to the town of Star Prairie township 31, ranges 15 and 16; first meeting to be held at the village of Fremont, December 10, 1857. The board voted to change the name of Kinnickinnic to Troy. On motion it was voted to annex the following territory to Erin Prairie, viz. Sections 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18, in township 30, range 17.

At a meeting of the board, held March 10, 1858, a petition was presented by the inhabitants of township 28, ranges 15 and 16, asking for the formation of a new town to be called Brockton; petition granted, but the name was subsequently changed to Eau Galle; the first election to be held at the schoolhouse near Holmans.

At a previous meeting the board voted to establish a new town, to be called St. Joseph, with the following boundaries: Commencing at a point on the shore of Lake St. Croix, where the south line of lot No. 1, in the northwest quarter of section 12, township 29, range 20, intersects said lake, and running east on said line to the town line between township 29, range 19, and township 29, range 18; thenec north to the center of the east line of township 30, range 19; thence west to the shore of the lake; thence south along said lake shore to place of beginning. At the same meeting it was voted to change the name of the town of Cold Spring to Richmond. At a meeting of the board, held November 25, 1858, it was voted to set off from the town of Hudson the territory embraced in township 29 north, of range 18

west, to be called the town of Warren, the first election to be held at the house of Dr. J. N. Van Slyke, to organize said town.

At a meeting of the county board December 2, 1859, an order was issued to detach sections 1, 2, 11 and 12 of township 30, range 17, from town of Cylon and annex the same to Erin Prairie; also that sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, township 30, range 17, be detached from the town of Star Prairie and annexed to town of Erin Prairie; the order to take effect the first Tuesday in April, 1860. The population of St. Croix county in 1860 was 5,394.

At a meeting of the county board, held June 8, 1860, an act to organize the town of St. Joseph was adopted, viz: All that portion of the late town of St. Joseph, in the township 30, ranges 19 and 20 west, and which was by an act of the legislature approved April 2, 1864, attached to, and made to become a part of the town of Somerset, and all of that portion of said town of St. Joseph, being in township 29, ranges 19 and 20, which was by said act attached to and made to become a part of the town of Hudson, is hereby set off from said town, to which they were so attached, and organized as, and made to constitute a town to be known as St. Joseph; the election for the re-organization to be held at the store of J. R. Brown June 27, 1860. At a meeting of the board, held June 18, 1860, an act was passed attaching the east one-half of township 28, of range 16 west, to the town of Rush River. At a meeting of the board, held June 9, 1860, the following act was passed: That all of township 28 north, range 16 west, is hereby detached from the town of Rush River, and attached to Eau Galle, in said county.

At a meeting of the board, held November 23, 1860, the following act was passed, viz: That sections 1, 2, 11 and 12, township 30, range 17 west, now forming a part of the town of Cylon, be detached from Cylon and attached to the town of Erin Prairie; said act to take effect the first Monday in April, 1861. On the same date the following act was passed: That township 30, ranges 15 and 16, now forming a part of the towns of Erin Prairie and Cylon, be, and is hereby detached from said towns and organized into a new town to be called Emerald; the first election to be held the first Tuesday after the first Monday in April, 1861, at the house of Thomas Ross, in section 20, township 30, range 16.

At a meeting of the board, held November 12, 1861, an act was passed that all of township 29, ranges 15 and 16, now forming a part of the town of Hammond be, and is hereby detached from said town and organized into a new town, to be known as Springfield, the first election to be held at the schoolhouse in district number 4, the first Tuesday in April, 1862. At a meeting of the board held December 2, 1864, it was voted to change the name of that portion of St. Croix known as Malone, in township 20, range

18, to Kinnickinnic. At a meeting of the board, held December 30, 1870, the following act was passed: Township 31 north, of range 17 west, of the fourth principal meridian, being a part of Star Prairie, is hereby detached from said town of Star Prairie and formed into a new town, to be known as Stanton; first election to be held the first Tuesday in April, 1870.

St. Croix county contains 127 school districts, all under the supervision of a county superintendent; and the city of Hudson comprises one district, under the supervision of a city superintendent. Of this number four are high school districts—at New Richmond, Glenwood, Baldwin and Hammond. All of these are four-year course free high schools. The high schools at Baldwin and Hammond have only an English course. Baldwin employs six teachers and Hammond five. The high schools at New Richmond and Glenwood have courses in English, German and Latin, and have a professional department for the training of teachers. This has proven a valuable adjunct to the schools, for a large percentage of their graduates take up the work of teaching. New Richmond employs twenty teachers and Glenwood eleven.

Thirteen districts have state graded schools. The following have state graded schools of the first class, employing three teachers: Woodville, Hersey, Wilson, Roberts, North Hudson, Somerset and Deer Park; Houlton, Cylon, Star Prairie, Districts Nos. 2 and 4, town of Somerset; District No. 4, town of Glenwood, and District No. 5, town of Glenwood, have state graded schools of the second class, and employ two teachers.

There are 110 rural districts having schools of one department. Four of these do not maintain schools, but send their children to neighboring villages and city schools, transportation being furnished in some instances. Of the remaining 106 districts, eighty-six have within the past year, through the untiring efforts of County Superintendent H. A. Aune, been organized into rural schools of the first class, and will under a law passed by the Wisconsin state legislature of 1907 secure special state aid of $50 a year for a period of three years—the requirements being that an adequate system of ventilation is provided, and the school otherwise fully equipped with the necessary supply of working tools needed for a successful school, the standard being fixed by the state superintendent; and a successful school being maintained for a period of at least eight months. A number of the remaining twenty districts have taken steps toward having their schools placed on the list of rural schools of the first class next year; and in a very short time every school in the county will undoubtedly be a school of the first class.

The school buildings are on an average of quite modern construction, and are being kept in good repair. Many of the older

buildings have been replaced by new ones, and others extensively repaired.

Outside of the city of Hudson, employing about twenty teachers, the St. Croix county schools employ 185 teachers. About one-half of this number have had some professional training in state normal schools; and a large percentage of the remaining number have had training in the professional departments of the high schools at New Richmond, Glenwood and Hudson. The city of New Richmond was one of the first in the state to inaugurate a professional, or practical department in its schools. This feature has proven so profitable in training teachers for the rural schools that many of the larger high schools in the state have incorporated the plan into their courses.

County Superintendent Aune conducts regular series of teachers' institutes and associations each year, and consequently the teaching force of the county is progressive and ranks among the first in the state in the highly important work of teaching.

A school board convention is called each year by the county superintendent, where from 200 to 300 school board members attend each year. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss matters that are of interest to the schools in general, and as a result of this it has been possible to make the schools of St. Croix county quite uniformly well equipped, and progressive from a modern point of view.

The prevailing school spirit of St. Croix county is one of mutual co-operation, and cannot help but result in an intellectual and moral upbuilding of the present growing and future generations.

Following is the total acreage of various crops raised in St. Croix county in 1908: Wheat, 2,118; corn, 22,698; oats, 74,560; barley, 18,455; rye, 5,086; flaxseed, 3,048½; potatoes, 2,575½; sugar beets, 48; other crops, 172; apples, 7¾ acres, with 1,881 bearing trees; raspberries, 71⅛; strawberries, 34¼; currents, 4; flax, 181; tobacco, 15; hay, 53,883; growing timber, 5,446. There are in the county 14,803 milch cows, value, $307,885; 15,474 other cattle, valued at $163,265; 7,623 horses, valued at $491,573; 13,083 sheep and lambs, valued at $38,523; 6,222 swine, four months and older, valued at $33,497.

## CHAPTER XLII.

### ST. CROIX COUNTY.

**Baldwin Village—Woodville Village—Baldwin Township—Cady Township—Cylon Township—Deer Park Village—Eau Galle Township—Emerald Township—History—Crops and Live Stock—Biography.**

The thriving village of Baldwin was incorporated December 4, 1874. There was some confusion for a time for the reason that the village at that time lapped over into the town of Hammond. There was forty acres of this "foreign" territory, and when the Baldwin people attempted to have the ground set off from Hammond, the people of the latter place opposed the movement, although ultimately it was accomplished by an act of the legislature. Being advantageously situated with railroad communication, the village rapidly increased in population and the future presented a cheerful outlook when on a bright Sunday morning in April, 1884, a fire swept through the village destroying a dozen or more of the buildings in the business part of the city, on which there was small insurance. Again April 7, 1893, a serious and disastrous fire occurred, burning four entire business blocks with the exception of three or four buildings. The loss, which was very large, was well insured. New buildings very soon took the places of those destroyed and were largely of brick. Since this date the village has prospered amazingly and now contains a population of over 1,000 people. The residents there, who are proud of the place, claim that no other village in the state of like size and population can boast of better and cleaner streets or more miles of good sidewalks than Baldwin. Baldwin has an electric light plant, an efficient fire company, an excellent system of waterworks and complete telephone equipment. There are flourishing lodges of the I. O. O. F., A. F. & A. M., M. W. of A., Rebekahs and W. O. W. The Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran church society was organized in 1874. The Congregational church was organized October 21, 1887. The First St. Luke's Episcopal parish was organized in 1875. The Presbyterian church, January 8, 1874, and the Baptist in 1897. Baldwin has a fine school building with four departments—the high school having been organized in 1899, and has proved successful along educational lines.

Nearly every branch of business is represented—a planing mill, lumber yard, creamery, flour and feed mills, eight general stores, two hardware stores, two drug stores, one tailor shop, two weekly newspapers, two real estate agents, one dealer in agricultural implements, two harness shops, two jewelers, one meat market, one barber shop, two hotels, five saloons, two restaurants, one bakery, two confectionery stores, three milling establishments, two flour and feed stores, two furniture shops, one photograph gallery, two livery stables, one bank, one dentist, doctors and lawyers, one shoe shop, two blacksmith shops, two paint shops, also the usual number of carpenters, stone masons, plasterers, paper hangers, dressmakers, etc. The Bank of Baldwin was incorporated in 1883 by J. A. Decker and Armstrong Taylor, with a capital stock of $25,000. It continued under the management of Mr. Decker as cashier until May 1, 1899, when he sold a controlling interest to several local business men, and N. B. Bailey became cashier. The capital was increased to $50,000 July, 1907, and the officers now are: N. B. Bailey, president; G. H. Pittman, O. A. Saugestad, Ed Stronks, vice presidents; Henry Anderson, cashier; N. L. Swanson, assistant cashier.

**Henry Anderson,** lawyer, is a native of Norway, born in the month of January, 1855, a son of Andrew and Bertha (Nelson) Anderson, who were respected residents of the old country, where they lived and died. Henry received an excellent education in his native land, and in 1874 located at Madison, Wis., afterward coming to Baldwin, in 1875. He started work on a farm. Subsequently he attended the schools of Madison for two years, supplementing the excellent education which he had already received, with training in English. He studied law in the office of H. F. Woodward, Senator Clapp and Armstrong Taylor until 1883, when he was admitted to the Wisconsin bar. He started the practice of his profession in 1884 in Cumberland, Wis., and after nine months came to Baldwin, where he continued to follow his profession until 1905, when he was elected cashier of the Bank of Baldwin, in which capacity he has since remained. During his years of labor as an attorney he was actively engaged in politics, being a staunch adherent of the Republican party. He has been chairman of the county board and of the county Republican committee. He has also held several town offices, and was elected to the state legislature, 1901, where his services attracted favorable attention. He is a member of the Masonic order, being a Knight Templar. His name also appears on the membership roll of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America.

He was married in 1886 to Lizzie O. Falck, by whom he has three children: Axel is a bookkeeper in the bank; Bert S. gradu-

ated from the Baldwin High school and now works for a Duluth wholesale hardware house, and Elmer is at home.

**Hans A. Aune,** superintendent of the public schools of St. Croix county, is a man of marked scholarly attainments. He is also an athlete and an orator, being a fine type of the modern educators who combine manliness of character and muscle with geniality of personality and knowledge of book lore. Mr. Aune is the son of Carl R. and Indiana (Alte) Aune, natives of Norway, who came to America in the early '70s and located in Baldwin township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin. They purchased sixty acres, broke the land, erected buildings and carried on a general farming industry with considerable success. The father served as treasurer of the township four years and was on the school board for a considerable length of time. He is also one of the leading progressive Republicans of Baldwin township. The mother died in the fall of 1906 and the father still resides on the old homestead. Hans A. received his elementary education in District No. 1 of Baldwin township and in Baldwin village. After teaching nearly three years he went to the high school at Menomonie, Wis., completing the course there, and in 1904 was graduated from the State Normal school at River Falls, Wis. In all his school days his ability as a pupil was marked. He had not been studying many years before his teachers realized that he was a child of unusual attainments, and he was scarcely of high school age when older people, who became interested in the career of this bright scholar, advised his parents to make a teacher of him. He early became imbued with that ambition himself, and it is greatly to his credit that he worked his own way ever since he entered the graded schools. While at Menomonie he was known as a brilliant talker, and at graduation was the class orator. At River Falls he was on the school debating team. He also won considerable note during his school days as an athlete, being a foot-ball expert and base-ball player, as well as captain of a fast basket-ball team. Mr. Aune's teaching experience embraces both district and graded schools. He taught very successfully in the common schools of the townships of Eau Galle, Cady and Somerset. In all of these towns he was offered increased salary to return, but each successive step that he took brought him nearer to the goal of his ambitions. In the month of September, 1904, he commenced teaching in the state graded school of Somerset, being principal of the school. During that year he was elected county superintendent of the schools of St. Croix county. In this connection he has served nearly two terms, giving general satisfaction. He is respected by the pupils, honored by the teachers and liked by the parents. He makes his headquarters in the village of Baldwin, where in the spring of

H. A. AUNE

D. R. BAILEY

1906 he purchased a beautiful house at the corner of Main and Third streets, valued at $2,500. He also owns three nice building lots in another part of the village. Mr. Aune was married November 9, 1905, to Hannah E. Anderson, of Eau Galle township, Wisconsin, daughter of Andrew A. and Nellie (Hanson) Anderson, natives of Norway, but now prominent farmers of Eau Galle. This union has been blessed with one child, Blanche Genevieve, born March 15, 1908. Mr. Aune is a progressive Republican and a member of the Lutheran church. He is so well known that comment upon his work is almost superfluous. He is an untiring worker, a true gentleman, and a clear reasoner, and to say that he is ably fitted for his honored position is to sum up, in a word or two, the numerous compliments that have been showered upon him, not only by the people of his own county but also by educators throughout the state.

**Dana Reed Bailey** was a native of Montgomery, Vt., born April 27, 1833. He was reared on one of the Vermont farms, where the Puritan staunchness of character was so instilled into his being that it remained with him through life, making him admired by associates and friends and feared by evil doers. Like other boys of his time he attended the district schools and there received the rudiments of an education. This was supplemented by studies in Bakersfield Academy, Leland Seminary and Oberlin College, Ohio, in which latter school he took a two years' course. Making use of the wide and excellent education thus obtained, he taught district school three terms, select school six months and the Beekman school at Saratoga, N. Y., one year. He then commenced the study of law in June, 1856, entering the law office of the late Chief Justice Royce, of Vermont. In 1859 he was graduated from the Albany Law school at Albany, N. Y., and commenced the practice of law in May of that year at Underhill, Vt. In February, 1860, he removed to Highgate, Vt., and practiced law there until September 1, 1864. While at Highgate he occupied many prominent positions. He was town agent two years, trustee of the United States surplus fund two years, deputy collector of United States customs three years and a quarter, and special agent of the United States war department for six months. In 1863 he was appointed secret agent of the United States treasury, holding this appointment three years. September 1, 1864, he opened a law office at St. Albans, Vt., entering into a co-partnership with Park Davis, February 3, 1865. A year later H. C. Adams was added to the firm. Mr. Bailey was a delegate to the Republican national convention in 1868 and a member of the state central committee for two years. For two terms he served as states attorney of Franklin county, and went to the state senate in 1870, being re-elected two years later. He was

chairman of the judiciary committee and was also honored with the appointment as chairman of a committee of five gentlemen named to investigate the Vermont Central Railroad. This committee, appointed by a joint resolution of house and senate, did not conclude its work until July, 1873. For two years Mr. Bailey was a school director of St. Albans. In 1871 he came westward and was the proprietor of the village site of Baldwin, St. Croix county, Wis. He built the Matchless flouring mills at that place, was the owner of three saw mills and half owner of two elevators. For ten years he was engaged in manufacturing flour and lumber, merchandising and farming, and for several years he owned a large herd of Shorthorns, which in 1877 sold in Chicago for the highest average price of any herd in the United States that year. In 1874 he moved his family to Baldwin, and was president of the village three years, treasurer one year and director of village schools seven years. In 1877 he was nominated for the state senate by acclamation by the Republican convention of the Twenty-fourth senatorial district, comprising seven towns, and received all but fifty-seven votes cast out of 3,131, the Republican nominee for the assembly having only ninety-nine votes majority in the county. Mr. Bailey was chairman of the judiciary committee in the senate in 1879. He was elected chairman of the county committee of St. Croix county in 1880 and was re-elected the next year. December 19, 1882, he resigned, and on December 21, went to Sioux Falls, S. Dak., taking charge of the Northwestern Mutual life insurance business in South Dakota until March, 1884. March 11, of that year he opened a law office in the Masonic Temple, in Sioux Falls. In January, 1886, he formed a partnership with his old partner, Park Davis, and a W. H. Lyon was added to the firm two years later. He was city attorney from 1885 to 1889 and on the 21st day of August, 1890, upon the resignation of C. O. Bailey, was appointed states attorney for Minnehaha county. By subsequent elections he held the office until 1895, continuing the practice of law.

In the territorial days of South Dakota Mr. Bailey was a member of the Republican central committee two years, and in 1895-96 was a member of the state board. In January, 1902, he was elected county judge of Minnehaha county, South Dakota, which position he held until his death, March 23, 1908.

**G. J. Brusse** was born in Lima, Wis., February 1, 1877. His father, G. W. Brusse, was born in Holland and came to Wisconsin in 1850, locating at Milwaukee, where he lived until 1864, when he went to Lima and followed his trade of carpentering. In 1900 he came to the village of Baldwin, and in March of that year purchased a farm in Hammond township, where he is at present engaged in carrying on general farming and dairying operations.

G. J. received his education in the graded schools of his native county and taught school there for one year. He then came to this county and taught one year in Baldwin, afterward farming for two years. July 1, 1902, he received the appointment as rural mail carrier, which position he now holds. Mr. Brusse is married and has one child.

**John J. Fleming** was born in Emerald, July 5, 1876, son of William and Elizabeth (Phillips) Fleming, of whom a sketch is found in this history, in connection with that of Henry Fleming. He attended the common schools and then entered the high school at New Richmond, Wis., subsequently taking a course in the Beeman Business College in the same city. After completing his education, he started clerking in a general store and kept books for his father. He is now bookkeeper and clerk for the Fleming estate, which comprises land, business and lumber holdings, as well as live stock and a general store. He was married November 27, 1902, to Emma Starr, of Glenwood, Wis., daughter of W. H. and Vina (Bentley) Starr, the father having been a millwright and general blacksmith at Emerald for William Fleming. W. H. Starr is now deceased and his widow resides at Glenwood. This union has resulted in two children, Mabel Fleming, born July 7, 1905, and Florence Fleming, born April 10, 1907. Mr. Fleming is a Republican in politics, being at the present time chairman of the Republican town committee, a position which he has held for six years. Some time ago he was appointed as school treasurer in his father's place, and was elected to that position in July, 1908. In fraternal circles he also stands high. For ten years he has been venerable counsel of Greenwood Camp No. 7001, Modern Woodmen of America, and has represented the camp at the state convention at La Crosse, Wis. He was also sent as a delegate to the national convention in Indianapolis, Ind., in 1903, and has been one of the leading officers in the Modern Woodmen Picnic Association of St. Croix County. Mr. Fleming is also a member of Sinden Camp No. 580, Royal Neighbors. He has interested himself in athletics of different kinds, and is manager of the home base-ball team, being also vice president of the Dunn-St. Croix base-ball league.

**O. K. Hawley,** proprietor of the "Baldwin Bulletin," the Baldwin newspaper, is a native of this state, having been born in Hammond on the 16th day of March, 1868. He is the son of William and Hannah (Moulton) Hawley. His father was a well-to-do farmer of Ashtabula, Ohio. Locating in this section in the early days, his efforts met with much prosperity and success. O. K. Hawley received a common school education and learned the printers' trade. He worked at this until January 1, 1902, when he purchased the "Baldwin Bulletin." This he conducted

along modern lines, and increased its subscription list to over 1,000. The paper is one of the old established sheets of this section, started some thirty years ago. Mr. Hawley was married in 1897 to Josephine Anderson, whose parents settled with the early pioneers on a farm in Rush River township, this county. William E., who is at school, is Mr. Hawley's only child. Affiliating with the Masonic fraternity, Mr. Hawley is a Knight Templar and a member of the I. O. O. F. Aside from his property in Baldwin, he owns extensive real estate in Canada. Mr. Hawley is an able writer and his paper occupies a high place among the country journals of the state. His knowledge of the printers' art enables him to issue a neat appearing publication, which might well be envied by the editors of much larger places than Baldwin.

During his newspaper career he has always taken an active interest in politics, and in 1908, was elected presidential elector for the Eleventh congressional district. The same year he was elected chairman of the Republican county committee of St. Croix county, and proved to be an able and efficient campaign manager.

**Herman Heebink,** the prosperous Baldwin lumberman, came to this county with just 43 cents in his pocket, and everything that he owns now he has made by his own efforts and unfailing industry. He was born in Holland, May 16, 1840, son of G. J. and Johanna Heebink, who came to the United States in 1854, and located in Sheboygan county, Wisconsin. The father was a farmer and also ran a general store in Holland, Wis., until 1872, when he came to St. Croix county and took up his residence in Hammond township, where he farmed until the time of his death, in the month of December, 1888. Herman received a good common school education, and came to this county in 1869, preceding his father by three years. He broke land and farmed, also doing some work in the woods until 1893, when he established his present lumber yard. In connection with the yard he runs a planing mill. He was married in 1877 to Denna T. Stroote, daughter of G. J. and Gertrude (Peters) Stroote, farmers of Sheboygan county. This union resulted in five children. George H. runs his father's planing mill; Lydia is deceased; Hanna is a bookkeeper for her father; Laura and Cecil A. are at home. Mr. Heebink owns some timber land near Ashland and also has some nice town property. He has been president of the village and now holds school office. The family are worshipers at the Presbyterian church.

**E. H. McAllister,** the genial proprietor and manager of the Commercial Hotel, Baldwin's leading hostelry, was born in Coxsackie, Green county, N. Y., April 3, 1857, a son of Charles E. and Harriet (Roberts) McAllister, natives of New York state.

The father was born in Stuyvesant, Columbia county, December 2, 1830, and the mother in Flat Bush, Green county, January 22, 1831. The former went to sea when but eight years of age and continued to sail the brine until 1905, when he left his position, as captain of a big boat, and took up his residence in a beautiful home at Albany, N. Y., where he and his wife live at the present time. They had four children. E. H., the subject of this sketch, was the oldest. John W. died in infancy. Charles E., Jr., is secretary of the E. W. Howell Coal Company, of Albany, N. Y. He married Louise Foster, daughter of Captain H. Foster, of Albany, and had three children: Lena, Lucy and a child which died in infancy. William is a physician living at Albany. He is still unmarried. E. H. studied under private tutors and attended private schools. He studied for the bar, and was prepared to be admitted to practice when he changed his plans and took up work as a traveling salesman, which he followed with marked success for twenty-one years. In all that time he worked for but two companies, the famous Austin, Nicholas Co., of New York, and the E. C. Harley Company, of Dayton, Ohio. In pursuing the work of salesman he made hundreds of friends, and today he numbers among his acquaintances thousands of hotel and traveling men, with whom he has come in contact in various parts of the country on his numerous trips as a salesman. In 1905 he decided to settle down. Coming to Baldwin he purchased the Commercial Hotel, and has since conducted a first class traveling men's hotel, with comfortable rooms and good table, together with excellent service. Mr. McAllister's own pleasing personality has no small share in the success that he has achieved. To know him is to like him, and in every way he deserves the title, "jolly good fellow," being at the same time, however, a keen business man. He is a good citizen, a good man, a big hearted companion and thoroughly honest and upright. He is a Republican, but has never sought public office. In 1908 his friends elected him a justice of the peace, but he refused to qualify. Mr. McAllister is unmarried and attends the Episcopal church. He belongs to the Woodmen at Baldwin, the Maccabees at Waterloo, Ia.; the A. O. F. at Jersey City, N. J., and the I. C. M. A., of Chicago. His Masonic affiliations consist of membership in the following named convocations: Marion, Ia., Lodge No. 6; St. Croix Chapter No. 44, Hudson, Wis., and St. Croix Commandery No. 14, also of Hudson. In all of these societies he is popular and well liked. It is interesting to note that Mr. McAllister is a lineal descendant of Captain Cook, the navigator, and great-grandson of Captain Hurd, of New London, Conn., who covered his heroic name with glory during the Revolution, being one of the gallant Connecticut Minute Men.

**B. H. Nibbelink** was born in Holland, November 13, 1853, son of Anthony and Gertrude (Heideman) Nibbelink, natives of that country. The parents came to America in 1867 and located in Milwaukee, where, until 1885, the father worked as a mason tender. In that year he entered the employ of the city, which position he retained until his death, February 28, 1904. B. H. received a common school education, largely in his native country. Upon leaving school he started work for the John Stark Manufacturing Company, of Milwaukee, makers of clay pipes. After this he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed until March 7, 1874, when he came to the village of Baldwin, where he worked at his trade, building. He purchased eighty acres of land from the D. R. Bailey heirs, the property now being owned by John Wilford. Mr. Nibbelink then carried on general farming in connection with his trade. He broke the land, built a house and made general improvements, in the meantime working a rented farm in connection with his own. He sold this eighty-acre farm in 1900, and moved on the William Scribner farm of eighty acres in the same township, which he had purchased eight years previous to this. He now carries on general farming. Aside from his farming interests, Mr. Nibbelink is the general manager of the Wisconsin Elevator Company, of Baldwin, which position he fills with much credit to himself. He was married February 25, 1874, to Magdelena Van Ouwerkerk, daughter of James and Nellie (Teinesse) Van Ouwerkerk, natives of Holland, who located in Milwaukee in 1856. They remained in that city until 1874, when they came to live with their daughter in Baldwin. They are now deceased. B. H. Nibbelink has eight children. Anthony H. was born December 22, 1874, at Hammond, Wis., and is now editor and proprietor of the "Boyd Bulletin," of Boyd, Minn. He worked on his father's farm until twenty-one years of age and then taught school for two terms, and learned the printers' trade with O. K. Hawley, editor and proprietor of the "Baldwin Bulletin." After working there three years he located in Boyd, Minn. He was married in 1900 to Matilda Quaal and has one child, Anna. James H. was born September 1, 1877, at Hammond, Wis., is an electrical engineer for the Noberg Company, of Milwaukee. He worked on his father's farm until twenty-one years of age and then went to Milwaukee and studied electricity, soon becoming an expert in that line. He married Nellie Christiaansen, and has three bright sons, Walter, Ray and Oliver. Nellie J., born November 26, 1879, at Hammond, married William C. Rens, a farmer of Baldwin township, and had one child, which died in infancy. Gertrude J., born July 26, 1882, is proprietor of the Baldwin millinery establishment and lives at home. Minnie M., born March 15, 1885, married John Donkers-

goed, a farmer at Hammond, and has one small son. Benjamin G., born September 1, 1887, at Hammond, is a pattern-maker for the Noberg Company, of Milwaukee. He also worked on his father's farm until twenty-one years of age, and then went to Milwaukee to learn the pattern-makers' trade, at which he was very successful. Dena S., born November 13, 1889, works with her sister Gertrude in the millinery store. Isaac D., the baby and pet of the family, was born August 30, 1897, at Baldwin, and still attends school.

Mr. Nibbelink is a staunch Republican and was assessor three years and chairman of the town two years. The family worships at the Christian Reformed church. Mr. Nibbelink has been uniformly successful in all his undertakings. He is a capable business man and has given his children all the advantages that good education and good training afford. He is a good citizen and is interested in all public affairs, being especially well read on matters of national importance.

**Oluf Alexander Saugestad,** who has occupied a number of important positions of public trust and honor, is a native of Norway, born near Trondhjem, at Beitstaden, January 19, 1840, son of Ole Andreas Saugestad and Elen Sophia (Bratley) Saugestad, the former of whom was a veterinary surgeon, who lived and died in the old country. Oluf received a good education in the common schools of his native land, and in 1864 was graduated from the Veterinary College at Copenhagen, Denmark. For some time he followed the profession of veterinary surgeon, and in 1870 came to America, first settling at Lansing, Ia. Two years later he came to Baldwin, where he has since continued to reside. For many years he combined the professions of druggist and veterinary surgeon, and in this capacity he became known for many miles around as an able and obliging friend. He is now retired from active business, but takes a deep interest in public affairs, and is regarded as one of the solid and substantial business men of the village. Mr. Saugestad is a Republican in politics and has held the following offices: Town treasurer, 1876 to 1882; state legislature, 1882; sheriff, 1893 and 1894; member of jury commission; supervisor of Baldwin seven years. His election to the legislature was by a large majority on the independent Republican ticket. At the present time he is vice president of the Bank of Baldwin. Mr. Saugestad was married June 29, 1870, to Karen E. Gravrok, who came with him to America. This union has resulted in one daughter, Olufina Alexandra, now employed in the People's State Bank at Hudson, Wisconsin. Mr. Saugestad is a member of the Lutheran church and affiliates with the Masonic order. His farm of eighty acres is all under cultivation and well improved. He is a self-made man, and owes all

his success in life to his hard work and industrious efforts. Otto Saugestad, brother of the subject of this sketch, came to America in 1866 and located at La Crosse, Wisconsin, where he still resides. For twenty-one years he was employed by Mons Anderson, of that city, as a traveling salesman.

**Charles A. Settegren** is a native of Sweden, born August 28, 1860, son of Charles J. and Hannah M. (Helen) Settegren, who came to the United States in 1867. They located first in Indiana, remaining six months, then settled in Red Wing, Minn., for two years. In that place the father, a tanner by trade, worked at farming. About 1871 he moved to Litchfield, Minn., where he built a tannery. In 1884 he came to Baldwin and remained six years, operating the Baldwin tannery, then going to Minneapolis and living a year in retirement. Subsequently he moved to Cokato, Minn., and bought a tannery. His failing health forced him to abandon this undertaking after six years, and he returned to Litchfield, Minn., where he passed away in 1899. His widow still survives, living with her children. Charles received a good common school education in Litchfield, after which he engaged in the harness trade in Cokato, Minn., for some time. He came to Baldwin in 1884 and established a harness shop; then engaged in the farm implement business with his brother, G. A., for three years. Subsequently he clerked for S. S. Holmes, merchant, one year, then moved to Princeton, Minn., where he stayed another year. Returning to Baldwin, he again engaged in the harness business until 1897, when he received the appointment as postmaster, which office he has since continued to hold. He is now also engaged in the real estate and loan business. He was married in 1882 to Emily Kylander, of Minneapolis, daughter of Charles J. Kylander, by whom he has two children, Ella V. and Fred W. She died in 1887 and Mr. Settegren later married Celia E. Johnson, daughter of A. K. Afdahl, by whom he has one child, Florence B. Mr. Settegren was town clerk for some time and served as village clerk two years. He has also been a trustee of the village. He is vice president of the Baldwin Electric Light and Fuel Company, manager and secretary of the Baldwin Telephone Company, stockholder in the Security State bank, of Baldwin; a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Modern Woodmen of America, and a Republican in politics. He has made all that he possesses by his own hard labor and well deserves all the success that he has achieved. He is a good citizen, generous and honest.

**Edward Stronks,** hardware merchant of Baldwin, was born at Cedar Grove, Sheboygan county, this state, June 6, 1858. His father, John William Stronks, was a native of Gelderland, Holland. He followed farming in his native country, coming to

America in 1847 and working two years at Schenectady, N. Y., in the locomotive works. He went thence to Milwaukee, and after staying in that city for a short time, located on a farm in Sheboygan county, this state, where he ended his days. His wife was Grace Snoeyenbos, of Gelderland, Holland, by whom he had nine children, five of whom are still living: Herman lives at Sheldon, Iowa; William lives in Alton, Iowa; Caroline married Henry Meengs, of Holland, Michigan; Hannah married Henry Remaker, of Cedar Grove, Wis., and Edward is the subject of this sketch. Edward received his education in the schools of Oostburg, Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, and at the Spencerian Business college at Milwaukee, Wis. From 1882 to 1886 he was engaged in the mercantile business in Cedar Grove, this state, afterward coming to Baldwin, where he has since been engaged in the hardware business. In politics he is a republican, having served four years as postmaster at Cedar Grove. Mr. Stronks was married, February 13, 1882, to Antonette, daughter of C. Prinsen and Margaret (Pattist) Prinsen, of Baldwin. This union has been blessed with seven children: Magdalena is the wife of W. M. Kooreman, of Alton, Iowa; John William lives in Squirrel, Idaho; Audley Edward assists his father in his business; Jessie Blanche is at home; Edward James lives in Squirrel, Idaho; Harold C. and Florence E. are at home. Mr. Stronks devoted his entire time to his business and has as fine a hardware business as is to be found in the valley. He has a genial personality and his business methods are such as inspire confidence in the minds of all of those with whom he has any commercial dealings.

**A. N. Thompson** first saw the light of day in Norway, November 4, 1863, a son of Thomas and Olene (Emunson) Thompson, natives of Norway. They came to America in 1885 and located in Menomonie, Wis., where the mother is still residing. The father passed away in that place in 1901. A. N. received a good education in the common schools of Norway and learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed in his native country until 1883, when he came to America and located at Baldwin, in St. Croix county, for one year. He followed his trade the next five years in Menomonie, Wis., and then pursued the same trade in Hudson, Wis., until 1892. In that year he came to the village of Baldwin and engaged in the furniture, funeral directing and undertaking business, which he has followed ever since in partnership with N. O. Johnson, who also shares his beautiful home with him. The firm carries a stock valued at $5,000. In preparation for his present work Mr. Thompson graduated from the Barnes School of Anatomy at Oshkosh, Wis., receiving his diploma from the post-graduate course in anatomy, sanitary science and embalming August 11, 1905. Mr. Thompson was married Sep-

tember 10, 1887, to Mary Johnson, daughter of N. O. and Gorgane Johnson, natives of Norway. Her parents came to America in 1872 and located at Hudson, where they lived until 1902, when the father engaged in business with Mr. Thompson and came to Baldwin. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have two children: Elvera, born March 6, 1896, and Gladys, born August 22, 1906. Mr. Thompson is a hard worker and his life has been filled with industry. He is a strong supporter of the public school system, a good neighbor, a considerate husband and a kind father. He is a republican in politics and has served as treasurer of school district No. 3 for eleven years. He is an attendant of the Scandinavian Lutheran church, and fraternizes with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to the lodges at Baldwin.

**Rev. S. K. Ulsaker,** pastor of the United Lutheran church at Woodside, town of Rush River, St. Croix county, is an ideal pastor, loved and revered by the members of his flock and respected by the people of other denominations. He was born in Norway, February 16, 1860, coming of good old Norwegian parentage, his kinsmen having for generations been noted for purity of life and staunchness of character. His father, Knut Ulsaker, was a farmer in Norway all his life, passing away in 1876. The mother, whose maiden name was Marget Finseth, was called to her reward in 1902. S. K. Ulsaker attended the common schools and then spent two years at St. Olaf academy at Northfield, Minn. This was supplemented with five years at the Lutheran college at Decorah, Iowa, after which he graduated from the Evangelical Lutheran seminary at Columbus, Ohio. Being thus ably equipped in training, education, character and faith for the Christian ministry, he was ordained at Northfield, Minn., September 19, 1886. In the same year he took up the ministry in Brown county, South Dakota, remaining for six years. In 1892 he came to Baldwin, St. Croix county, and took charge of four churches. In this work he was particularly successful, laboring night and day for the spiritual welfare and material success of his four parishes, winning the love and esteem of every communicant with whom he came in contact. In 1896 the four parishes were divided, and the Rev. Ulsaker was given charge of the Woodside church, where he has labored faithfully. With all his success he has kept his simplicity of character and anyone in trouble or distress always finds in him a warm and fatherly friend and counsellor. Mr. Ulsaker was married June 14, 1887, to Amelia Sethre, of Lanesboro, Minn., daughter of John and Martha (Stenshoel) Sethre, natives of Norway, who came to America and became prominent farmers of Fillmore county, Minnesota, both being now deceased. Mrs. Ulsaker died April 25, 1903, at La Crosse, Wis., after an

operation. She was a woman of beautiful character and will long be sincerely mourned by a wide circle of friends. She left beside her husband, three children to revere her memory: Carl J. was born April 17, 1888; Marcus O. was born March 17, 1890, and is now a student at St. Olaf's college; Hjalmar was born December 5, 1892, and is a student at the Baldwin High school. Mr. Ulsaker was for six years a visitor to the Hudson division of the United Lutheran denomination. He is a republican in politics and takes a deep interest in all public events, being a warm friend of education. He is a large-hearted, clear-headed man and an upright Christian gentleman.

## BALDWIN TOWNSHIP.

At a meeting of the county board held December 4, 1872, it was ordered that a certain district known as township 29, north of range 16 west, being a part of Springfield township, be set off from said town and formed into a new township to be known as Baldwin, the first meeting to be held the first Tuesday in April, 1873, in the school house in joint district No. 4. William Whewell was the chairman of the first board of supervisors. The township is bounded by Emerald, Hammond, Springfield and Eau Galle and is crossed by the Omaha railroad. It is a township of rich farm land and contains two villages, Baldwin and Woodville. The township contains 21,406 acres, having an average value of $26.05. There are in the township 580 horses, valued at $34,800; 3,050 neat cattle, valued at $42,700; 180 sheep and lambs, valued at $540; 280 swine, valued at $1,400. Total value of real estate, $599,300; of personal property, $130,400, making a grand total of $729,700. Following is the acreage devoted to various crops in Baldwin township in 1908: Wheat, 65; corn, 5,408; oats, 1,697; barley, 461; rye, 209; flaxseed, 152; potatoes, 108; cultivated hay, 1,195. There are 700 acres of growing timber and 204 bearing apple trees.

**Matthue Achterhof** is a native of Holland, born February 1, 1856, son of Jacob and Grace (Lait) Achterhof, of Holland, who came to America May 1, 1881, and lived with their son at Grand Rapids, Mich. The father died there in 1888. Matthue received his education in Holland and did military service two years, coming to America in 1881. He settled at Grand Rapids, Mich., and engaged in a furniture factory until 1888, when he started a general store, continuing for three years. He then came to Baldwin township in 1891 and purchased forty acres of land, half of which he broke, made general improvements, built a house and outbuildings. Mr. Achterhof was married in the month of September, 1883, to Katie Borgman, also of Holland, daughter of Arand and Wilhelmina, who settled in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Seven children have blessed this union: Jacob, Wilhelmina, Grace, John, Adraina, Johannas and Rena. Jacob married Dena Redimaker, of Baldwin, and Wilhelmina married Herman Gratenhause, of Erin Prairie, Wis. The other five are at home. Mr. Achterhof is a republican in politics and the family religion is that of the Reformed Christian church.

**Edward Benson** was born in Norway, May 15, 1868. His parents, Aanen and Sevarine (Holverson) Benson, were natives of Norway. They came to America in 1871 and located in Baldwin township in 1876, purchasing forty acres of land, which they broke and improved, carrying on diversified farming until several years ago, when they retired from active life, giving the management to their son, with whom they now live on the old homestead. Edward received a common school education, after which he did day labor for twelve years in various localities. He subsequently came home and took his father's farm, which he has since conducted. He has greatly improved and altered the farm and houses and has brought the place to a first-class condition in every respect, his aim being to have one of the best farms in the neighborhood. He raises general crops and live stock. Mr. Benson is still single. He has four sisters: Mary, who married P. C. Finbold, postmaster at Woodville, Wis.; Elevina, who married J. C. Johnson, banker and merchant at Woodville; Carrie, who died in July, 1905, and Annie, who is now at home. In politics Mr. Benson tends toward the socialist party, but has never sought public office, choosing rather to devote his time to his farm work. Throughout life he has been a man who has read much and thought deeply. He is unassuming and a hard worker, enjoying the esteem of a wide circle of acquaintances.

**Ernest E. Conner,** chairman of the township of Baldwin, was born in Elgin, Kane county, Illinois, January 5, 1870, son of Edward and Lucy (Freeborn) Conner, natives of Steuben county, New York, who located in Kane county, Illinois, in 1864. In that county they engaged in dairying until 1871, when they came to this locality and purchased 120 acres in Eau Galle township, which they broke and improved, erecting a house and outbuildings and carrying on a general farming business until 1891, making a specialty of keeping bees and sheep. Selling out to their son, they moved to Woodville, this township, where the father worked on the railroad one year for D. M. Sabin. He then moved to Hammond, this state, and engaged in the lumber business very successfully for some years. He died in July, 1899, his wife having passed away at Woodville, November 1, 1895. Ernest E. received his education in the public schools of Eau Galle and Baldwin and at the River Falls normal school. He

then farmed with his father until 1891, when he bought the homestead at Eau Galle and continued until 1898, when he purchased the F. L. Wilford farm at Baldwin. The farm consists of 110 acres, and under Mr. Conner's ownership has been beautified and improved. Among other additions, he has erected a new barn. Upon this farm he has successfully carried on a general farming industry, raising good crops and breeding blooded stock, hogs, fowls and horses. Mr. Conner was married, December 21, 1891, to Jessie, the daughter of E. H. and Minnie (Keltz) Wilford, of Baldwin, Wis. Her parents went to Kansas many years ago, and in 1881 came to Baldwin, where the father engaged in the meat business until 1906, when he sold out to his brother. He is now supervisor of assessment of St. Croix county, still making his headquarters at Baldwin. Mr. and Mrs. Conner have three children: Cora, born February 1, 1893; Clifford, born December 20, 1894, and Forrest, born April 12, 1901. The subject of this sketch was for four years side supervisor of the town board of Eau Galle during his residence in that township. He has been on the side board of Baldwin, and is now chairman of the town board, having ably served for two years. He is also clerk of school district No. 4, having served for a number of years. He is a republican in politics, attends the Methodist Episcopal church and affiliates with the Baldwin camp, No. 3039, Modern Woodmen of America. He is a man of sincere convictions and untiring energy, and whether working for the township or for himself he uses the best business ability and judgment, and has been as successful in township affairs as he has been in running his own farm. He is a thorough reader and keeps well informed on all current topics.

**Peter Dennis,** for twenty-seven years road commissioner of the township of Hammond, is a native of County Armagh, Ireland, a son of Dennis and Bridget McGeger, born March 20, 1842. The mother died in 1844 and the father passed away in 1896. Peter received a good common school education in the schools of Ireland and then engaged for some years as a practical miller in his native country. In 1864 he came to America and located on one of the rich tobacco farms near Hartford, Conn., for one year. He then went to Waupaca county, Wisconsin, and followed his trade of miller, also working in the woods and on the river. In 1869 he came to Hammond township and bought eighty acres of land. To this he has added from time to time until he now owns 320 acres, nearly all of which he improved. He is considered as having one of the finest farms in the township. He raises large crops of grains, some vegetables, and breeds Shorthorn and Jersey cattle, Poland-China and I. O. C. hogs and Plymouth Rock fowls. November 3, 1873, Mr. Dennis married

Maria Hawkins, of Warren township, Wisconsin, daughter of Thomas and Catherine Hawkins, natives of County Gallaway, Ireland, but now popular farmers in Warren. Mr. and Mrs. Dennis have seven children: Fred is at home; Agnes married William Hyde, of Hammond; Elizabeth married Mike Collins, a machinist at Hudson, Wis.; Lottie graduated from the River Falls normal school and teaches school; John is at home; Cora is a music teacher, and William is also at home. Mr. Dennis is a democrat in politics and has served on the school board as treasurer for six years. He is a member of the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin and a communicant of the Catholic church. He is a man who believes in up-to-date methods in all his farming operations. He has on his farm four wells, one 80 feet and three 130 feet each, two of them being provided with modern windmills. A fine barn, which burned as the result of a lightning stroke in 1898, was replaced in 1899 by one which Mr. Dennis erected at a cost exceeding $2,000. Mr. Dennis is an able farmer, a good citizen and a true friend, one who in his entire life has never knowingly wronged a man by word or deed.

**Marcus Flak**, now deceased, bore an honorable record for uprightness and honesty of character, and is ably succeeded by his daughter, Miss Minnie, regarded as one of the ablest and most sagacious women in the township. He was a native of Norway, born September 5, 1830, son of Michael and Ellen Mackelson Flak, who lived and died in the old country. Marcus came to America in 1868 and settled in Baldwin township, where he purchased eighty acres of land, soon after adding another forty acres, all of which he broke and improved, erecting a beautiful house and spacious outbuildings. He raised large crops very successfully, and was a breeder of stock, his horses having been particularly fine animals. Mr. Flak was married December 25, 1858, to Laura, daughter of Lawrence and Mary (Lawrence) Lauman, natives of Germany, later of Norway, the mother still residing there at over ninety years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Flak were blessed with two children. The first born, Michael Ludveck, was born August 5, 1866, and passed away January 19, 1869. Minnie was born March 5, 1871. Since her father's death she has managed the home farm and cared for her mother, who is over seventy years of age. She has been more successful than the majority of men, and her ability in looking after all the details of farm work is greatly envied by all who know her. She is still a young woman and has a promising career ahead of her. Mr. Flak was a devout adherent of the Lutheran church, in which denomination he was an elder at the time of his death. He took a quiet interest in public affairs and was well informed upon all the topics of the day, few men being able to get the better of him

in an argument. He never, however, sought public office, although he was never absent from the polls on election day. He always voted the republican ticket. A hard working and progressive gentleman, his death caused sorrow in the hearts of a wide circle of friends.

**Jens Nelson Freile** was a native of Laaland, Denmark, born November 15, 1845. He came to America in 1866 and stayed in Pleasant Valley half a year, afterward following lumbering at Menomonie, Wis., for several years. In the spring of 1875 he moved to Happy Valley, St. Croix county, and October 20, 1875, married Elsie Rasmusson, daughter of Rasmuss Nielson and Sidsel Brand, natives of Denmark, where they lived and died. In that same year Jens Nelson Freile purchased 120 acres of land, eighty in Hammond township and forty in the town of Baldwin, broke the land and made general improvements, erecting a house and outbuildings. For the remainder of his life he devoted his attention to farming, of which he made a great success. He was a republican in politics, but never tried to obtain public office. He was a member of the Lutheran Norwegian church. On the 23d day of February, 1889, he passed away, and was followed to his grave by a sorrowing concourse of mourning friends, in whose hearts and esteem he had held a high place. The widow still survives. He was the father of seven children. Mary married Lewis Ausland, of Chetek, Wis. Nels runs the farm with his mother. Lars W. died at home in 1905. He enlisted in Company H, Third Infantry, at St. Paul, Minn., and served one year in the Spanish-American war. He came home January 1, 1899, and March 28 of that year re-enlisted for three years. He went to the Philippines and served one year, being then transferred to Pekin, China. At the end of his three years' service he was discharged. Returning home, he served as wall guard at the Waupun State's prison for twenty-one months, then entering the Stevens Point normal school. From this institution he came home ill and remained with his mother until the time of his death. Bolettie Amelia graduated from the Hammond high school in 1903 and has taught ever since. She has just entered the normal school at Stevens Point, Wis. Frederick died in infancy. Jens F. died at two years. Jens E. graduated from the Baldwin high school and is now a teacher. The home farm, which is now run by Nels, is in a high state of cultivation. Upon its acres are raised general crops as well as Poland-China hogs and Plymouth Rock fowls. Nels is supervisor of the township of Hammond and has been treasurer of school district No. 9 for three years. He is a hard working and industrious young man, and is worthily following in his father's footsteps.

**F. J. Geurkink** was born in Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, September 2, 1866, son of G. J. and Jane (Nonhof) Geurkink, natives of Holland, of whom a sketch will be found in this history in connection with that of Henry Geurkink. F. J. went to the common schools and worked on the farm with his father until 1887, when he bought forty acres from his father and carried on a general farming until 1891, when he sold out and purchased eighty acres, which he broke and improved, now carrying on a general farming with much success. Mr. Geurkink was married December 7, 1893, to Dena Bauwmester, daughter of John and Cena (Terhaar) Bauwmester, natives of Holland, but now living at Baldwin. Seven children have blessed this union: Roy, born September 21, 1894; Fred, born February 20, 1896, and Walter, born October 2, 1897; Howard, born October 19, 1900; Alvin, born September 3, 1903; Earl and Irma, twins, born September 5, 1907. Mr. Geurkink is a republican in politics and attends the Dutch Reformed church. He has served both as assessor and school clerk of Baldwin. He is an industrious laborer and his ability is acknowledged by a wide circle of acquaintances. Upon his ninety-acre farm he carries on up-to-date farming operations, owning a 192-foot drilled well, over which is erected a forty-eight-foot tower.

**Andrew Hanson,** of the firm of Hanson and Johnson, leading merchants of Woodville, was born at Frederickstad, Norway, February 4, 1861, son of Hans Hanson and Bertha Maria (Olsen) Hanson, natives of that country, who followed farming and ended their lives there, being the parents of nine children, four of whom are now alive, as follows: Helen, married to C. P. Granat, a farmer in Norway; Boletta, married to John Helstrom, also a Norwegian farmer; Louise, married to Gilbert Folsom, of Tacoma, Wash., and Andrew, the subject of this sketch. Andrew was educated in the schools of Norway, coming to America at the age of nineteen years. His first work was as a clerk in the village of Woodville, in 1881. In 1885 he engaged in business for himself, which he continued with considerable success for six years. Subsequently he formed the firm of Hanson and Johnson, of which mention will be found in the sketch of J. C. Johnson, which appears in this history. The business, already large, is constantly growing, and the two members of the firm are deserving of all the prosperity that has been accorded them. Aside from his interest in the store, Mr. Hanson owns bank holdings, forty acres of land in his own name, and also a half interest in a rich farm of 440 acres, which brings in a considerable income. He is a member of the Democratic party, but votes independently upon local affairs. He is a communicant of the Lutheran church. Mr. Hanson was married September 5, 1884, to Randine Nelson,

daughter of Nels Riarson, of Modum, Norway. The issue from this union is as follows: Hilda Nettie, born February 18, 1885; Dora Maria, born February 8, 1887; Arthur Reynold, born December 1, 1888; Oscar Bernhart, born March 2, 1891; Clara Emelie, born December 28, 1892; Eda Louisa, born November 26, 1894; Walter Ferdinand, born August 4, 1896; Georgia Sigvart, born July 22, 1898; Petra Theresa, born November 6, 1900; Johan Kermit, born May 19, 1904, and Victor Urben, born March 21, 1906. Mr. Hanson is a progressive citizen and his financial standing is of the best.

**Garrett Holtman** was born in Linden, Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, June 7, 1856, son of John and Alice (Top) Holtman, natives of Holland, who came to America in 1853 and bought forty acres of land in that place. The father was a carpenter by trade, but also followed farming, breaking and improving all his land. He sold this property in 1872 and purchased a ten-acre lot, upon which he built a house and lived until 1882, when he sold out and bought a house and lot in the village of Gibbville, same township, where he lived until his death, April 20, 1903. His wife passed away January 2, 1891. John and Alice Holtman were the parents of seven children: Katherine married Jacob Top; Hattie married G. Abbink; Albert married Gertrude Riemer; Maggie married John Klein; Garrett was the fifth child; John married Rena Kruizenga, and Martha married Garrett Tenhaken. Albert and John are farmers of Baldwin, Wis.; the Messrs. Top, Abbink and Kline are farmers at Lincoln, Neb., and Mr. Tenhaken farms at Linden, Wis. John has three children, as follows: Priscilla Elen, Alma Laura and Roda Magdelena. Garrett received a good common school education at Linden, afterward learning the carpenter's trade, which he has made largely his life work. He came to Baldwin township in 1878 and lives with his brother John, being now engaged in the bee and honey business, of which he has made a careful study for the past twenty-three years. He keeps Italian queens mixed with blacks and is regarded as an authority on the subject of apiary culture. Mr. Holtman owns thirty acres of land in the township of Emerald, Wisconsin, and eighty acres of land in the town of Baldwin. He is an independent voter, and, although he has never sought office, has been clerk of school district No. 3 for six years. He is a hard worker, a good citizen, a popular gentleman and a strong believer in education.

**James Metlie** is a native of Norway, born November 25, 1847, son of J. and Mary Metlie, prominent Norwegian farmers. James received a good education in his native country, and in 1871 came to America, locating first at Minneapolis, Minn., opening a general store, which he conducted until 1876, when he sold out and

went to the gold fields of the Black Hills. While there he met with many interesting adventures and acquired a considerable fortune, remaining until 1882. Taking a well deserved vacation after years of hard work, he decided in 1882 to visit his old home in Norway. He remained abroad until the spring of 1883, when he returned to Minnesota and engaged in the lumbering business until 1903, when he came to Baldwin township and purchased eighty acres of land, all of which is now under cultivation. He has improved the land and repaired the buildings, making the place up to date in every respect. Among the special features of his farm life is a flock of Mountain goats, which he secured in South Dakota. Mr. Metlie is a Democrat in politics and attends the Lutheran church.

**Albertus Mentink** is a native of Cedar Grove, Holland township, Sheboygan county, Wis., born August 27, 1856, son of John and Jane (Bendenie) Mentink, natives of Netherland. The parents came to America and settled in Holland township, Sheboygan county, where they purchased 130 acres, which they broke and improved, erecting a house and outbuildings and carrying on a general line of farming, raising shorthorn and Jersey cattle and Berkshire white hogs. The mother died in the month of November, 1864, and the father married Gertrude Princen, a native of Netherland. The father is still living in a beautiful home at Cedar Grove City, Holland township, at the good old age of ninety-two years. Albertus received a good common school education in Cedar Grove City, after which he learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed three years. In 1878 he bought a farm of sixty acres in Baldwin, where he has since lived. He broke the land and made general improvements, including the construction of a house and outbuildings. In 1907 he built a new and modern barn, valued at $1,000. He does a diversified farming and raises stock. He was married February 18, 1879, to Johannah Obink, of Netherland, daughter of Durk W. and Jane Bendenie (Onink) Obink, both now deceased. By this union there are six children—Jane Bendenie, born November 26, 1879, married Cornelius Locker, a farmer of Erin township, Wisconsin; William D., born July 20, 1881, married Hattie Scherurs, a farmer of Hammond township; Gertrude, born April 8, 1885, married Chris Gravink, also a Baldwin farmer; John B., born December 16, 1891; Edward A., born December 29, 1895, and Alma J., born May 20, 1900, are at home. Mr. Mentink is a Republican in politics. He has been supervisor of Baldwin three years and treasurer of school district No. 7 for five years. He is a member and elder of the Dutch Reformed church at Baldwin. Throughout all his life he has been very industrious and a very hard worker. His beautiful home speaks well for his own progressiveness, and Mrs.

Mentink's ability in managing her household affairs. He is a strong believer in education, and his exemplary life has made the name of Mentink respected and honored wherever it is known.

**John O'Leary** comes of good old Irish stock. He was born in County Cork, May 27, 1856, son of Daniel and Catherine (Hurley) O'Leary, both of whom were respected residents of Ireland. The father was a railroad man in his early days, but later took up the hotel business in his native county, continuing in this business until his death in 1866. His wife died in 1876. Daniel and Catherine O'Leary were the parents of three daughters and two sons—John, Nora, Minnie, Catherine and Daniel. Nora lives in England; Minnie in Waupun, Wis., and Catherine in Milwaukee, Wis. John received a good common school education and attended the National Model School at Dunmanway, Ireland. He came to America in April, 1874, and located at Waupun, Wis., farming there for two years. He then went to Colorado, where he was department foreman in a large smelting concern. After six years there he went to Denver, Col., where he had charge of a branch of the Grant and Omaha Smelting & Refining Company. He returned to Waupun in 1885 and worked on his father-in-law's farm until 1903, when he purchased 165 acres for himself. He later sold this place and purchased 197 acres in Hammond township, where he now resides. He has greatly improved the farm, raising some large general crops and live stock. Mr. O'Leary was married in 1882 to Viola Hartshorn, of Fond du Lac, Wis., daughter of John P. and Martha Jane (Somers) Hartshorn, the former of whom was born in Vermont and the latter in New York state. In 1848 they settled in Waupun, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. O'Leary have six children—Herbert, Don, Cecil, Florence, Clarence and Martha. Herbert is a cadet at the United States Military Academy at West Point, N. Y. The rest of the children are at home. Mr. O'Leary is a Republican in politics and has served as supervisor of the town of Hammond several years. He has also served on the school board. Mr. and Mrs. O'Leary stand very high in the community. They are believers in education, and their children have had the advantage of an excellent bringing-up. Mr. O'Leary is widely honored and respected, honest to the core and a gentleman of unquestioned integrity. He is a man of much ability and has made a pronounced success of all his undertakings.

**Peter Serier** is a native of Holland, Sheboygan county, Wis., born January 5, 1859, son of Iman and Minnie (Kramer) Serier, natives of Holland. Iman came to America in 1852 and purchased one acre of land in Holland, Sheboygan county. Adding ten acres more, he sold the tract of eleven acres and bought a forty-acre tract. This he traded for eighty acres, which he sold,

and purchased a house and lot at Cedar Grove village, in Holland township, where he now lives at ninety years of age. The mother died in March, 1904, at the age of seventy-five years. Peter received a good common school education in Holland township, then learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed until 1891. In 1880 he came to Baldwin township and purchased forty acres of land. He sold that and bought another forty, added ten and sold the fifty acres. Then he purchased two tracts of forty acres each and one tract of twenty-four acres, making in all 104 acres of good land in Baldwin township, upon which he now resides, doing a diversified farming. Eighty acres of this land he cleared and broke himself, erecting a comfortable residence. In 1905 he added a commodious new barn, valued at $1,000. Mr. Serier was married November 9, 1882, to Sarah Risseeuw, daughter of Hubert and Sarah (Brill) Risseeuw, natives of Holland, who came to America and settled in Holland township, Sheboygan county, where they farmed for the remainder of their days. Mr. and Mrs. Serier have been blessed with five children—Nellie, born November 2, 1883; Clarence, born October 14, 1890; Agnes, born February 16, 1892; Melvin, born November 11, 1893, and Erwin, born June 1, 1895. All are at home except Nellie, who, after completing a course in the Globe Business College, of St. Paul, is now a stenographer at Hudson, Wis. Mr. Serier is a staunch Republican in politics and attends the Presbyterian church. He has never aspired to public office. He is giving his children the advantages of good common educations. Mr. Serier is a hard worker and is universally esteemed for his character as a man and his ability as a farmer.

**G. J. Vandeberg** is a native of Alto, Fond du Lac county, Wis., born June 12, 1862, son of C. J. and Sena (Beyers) Vandeberg, both born in Holland. The parents emigrated to Alto and purchased eighty acres, which they broke and improved, carrying on a general farming, while making a specialty of apples. Both are now deceased, having passed away on the old homestead, the father May 28, 1884, and the mother March 20, 1867. G. J. received a common school education at Fond du Lac county and then farmed with his father until twenty-four years of age. In the spring of 1888 he went to southern Minnesota, where he purchased 460 acres of land, which he broke and improved. He erected two fine dwellings and necessary outbuildings, carrying on diversified farming. Later he sold this farm and returned to Fond du Lac county, where he remained until 1901. The following year he came to Hammond, Wis., and purchased 160 acres of land, which he at once started to improve. He rebuilt the house and has made repairs to the amount of over $3,000. He now does a large farming business. Mr. Vandeberg was mar-

ried in 1888 to Hattie Terbeest, of Waupun, Fond du Lac county, Wis., daughter of E. C. and Dora Terbeest, whose parents still reside in Alto, Fond du Lac county, where they are highly respected and honored citizens. Mr. and Mrs. Vandeberg have been blessed with five children—Chris J., Edward C., Dora C., Ellie H. and George H., all living at home. Mr. Vandeberg is a staunch adherent of the principles of the Republican party. He has served with much credit as school clerk of district No. 1 for three years, and at present is one of the assessors of the township. He was also school clerk in Minnesota twelve years. He is an earnest believer in the advantages of a thorough schooling and is giving his children good educations. He is a well-read, well-informed man, and has an intelligent opinion upon all the topics of the day. His home life is ideal, and the entire family is highly thought of by a wide circle of friends.

**Cornelius Wernlund** is a native of this state, born in Waukesha county, August 20, 1857, son of John and Jesenia Wernlund, natives of Holland, who came to America and settled in Waukesha county in the early fifties. They bought forty acres of land, which the father worked for two years, after which he sold out and came to Baldwin township, buying 160 acres. To this he soon added eighty acres more, making 240 in all, which he broke and improved, erecting a house and outbuildings. He continued to carry on a general farming until his death, in April, 1883. The mother is still living with her son on the old homestead. Mr. Wernlund, Sr., made many friends during his life in the township, and his death was sincerely mourned. Cornelius received his education in the common schools of Baldwin and worked on the farm. At the time of his father's death he took charge of the home place, which he has since conducted, making many improvements. He carries on a diversified farming, making a specialty of raising horses, of which he is a great admirer. Mr. Wernlund is unmarried and has four brothers and one sister—C. F. and J. C. are farmers in Baldwin township; Garret is a farmer at Mason; William is also a Baldwin township farmer, and Jane lives at Baldwin. Mr. Wernlund is an independent voter and a member of the Presbyterian church.

**Herman Willink** is a native of this state, born in Waupun, Fond du Lac county, October 23, 1863, son of Abram and Amelia (Bargebos) Willink, natives of Holland, who came to America in the early fifties, and after living for a few years in Fond du Lac came to Baldwin township and bought 140 acres of land, which they broke and improved, carrying on a general farming until September 22, 1866, when the father died. The mother is still living, making her home on the Willink farm. She is now over seventy-eight years of age and in the best of health. Her-

man received a good education in the common schools. Subsequently he took up farming with his stepfather, B. Terhaar, until the latter's death in 1887. Since then he has purchased the farm and now owns a nice piece of property of 180 acres, of which 160 is under cultivation. He carries on a general farming and raises considerable live stock. He is very fond of horses and takes pride in those which he breeds on his farm, some of them being animals of good pedigree and record, and all of them being sleek looking and well kept. He makes a specialty of the Percheron breed. Mr. Willink was married December 18, 1890, to Berendiena Nyman, of Holland, daughter of G. J. and Tonia Borninhof Nyman, who settled in Baldwin in the early days. They are now both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Willink have been blessed with six children—Minnie, born September 2, 1892; Theresa, born December 3, 1893; Elva, born May 7, 1895; Arnold, born October 25, 1896; George, born November 8, 1899, and Hazel, born May 17, 1906. Mr. Willink is a Republican in politics. He has been treasurer of the town three years and a member of the side board three years. He is an elder of the Presbyterian church. He is greatly devoted to his family, and his children are being given the advantages of a good education. He is an honest and upright gentleman, one who is highly respected by all who know him.

## WOODVILLE VILLAGE.

Woodville, with a population of 315, has a Baptist, two Lutheran and one Methodist Episcopal churches; has a Citizen's State Bank with a paid-in capital of $10,000, surplus $2,000; a creamery company; a dealer in grain, flour and feed; restaurant and confectionery; hotel and livery; two blacksmith shops; a drug store; livery barn, and meat market.

**P. C. Finvold** was born in northern Norway, June 10, 1852, son of John Christenson and Sanna Christenson, farming people of Norway. The father came to America in 1871 and located at Eau Claire, Wis., where he followed lumbering. In 1878 he moved to Elk creek, this state, and farmed until 1888, afterward retiring and settling in Woodville. By his first wife he was the father of three children—Peter C., the subject of this sketch; Iver, of Woodville, and Benjamin, of the state of Washington. He married for his second wife Anna Olson, of Norway, and had four children—Sanna, deceased; Anna, married to T. Tellefson, of Washington state; Ingebor, deceased, and Ole, deceased. P. C. was educated in Norway and came to America with his father. He spent four years in lumbering at Eau Claire and three years at Dubuque, Ia. In 1881 he came to Woodville, following lumbering and farming. In politics he is a Republican

and has been assessor one year, chairman of the township seven years, postmaster three years, notary public, school director and other minor offices. He is a member of the Baptist church and chairman of its board of trustees. Mr. Finvold was married, October 28, 1882, to Mary Benson, daughter of Aanen Benson and Serine Benson, of Baldwin, by whom he has five children—Sanna, Arnold, Clinton, Kate and Phillip. He has a fine farm of thirty-five acres, pasture and hayland, and is regarded as one of the substantial men of the township.

**John C. Johnson,** merchant of Woodville, first saw the light of day at Clinton, Vernon county, Wis., December 27, 1862, son of Ole and Elena (Skyberg) Johnson, both natives of Gulbrandsdalen, Norway, where they were farming people. They came to America in 1859, locating at La Crosse county, this state, where they followed farming. In 1860 or 1861 they removed to Vernon county, same state, where they still reside. They had issue as follows: John C., the subject of this sketch; Oluf, a hotel man in La Crosse, this state; Edward, who works on the home farm; Severt, employed by a wholesale grocery house at Minneapolis, Minn.; Christena, married to Chris Stockes, a farmer and carpenter (now deceased); Carl, a merchant of Paskin, Wis., and Julia, wife of Emil Erickson, a blacksmith of Melvina, Wis. Ole Johnson was a veteran of the Civil war. John C. received his education in the schools of Vernon and St. Croix counties. After leaving school he engaged in the general merchandise business and lumbering with the Woodville Lumber Company. In 1892 he formed a partnership with A. Hanson under the firm name of Hanson & Johnson, buying out the business of the Woodville Lumber Company, which they still continue. They also conduct an implement and machine business and have a large store with a branch at Baraboo, this state. Mr. Johnson is a Republican in politics, but has never sought office. The family have been members of the Lutheran church for many years, Mr. Johnson having been a trustee for some time. He is now a teacher in the Sunday-school. Mr. Johnson was married, November 22, 1886, to Elvina, daughter of Aanen Benson, of Baldwin township. Their four children are: Helen, Alvin, Edna and Esther. Mr. Johnson is president of the Citizens' State Bank, of Woodville, and owns a farm of 440 acres, upon which he raises stock, hay and grain. For four years he was postmaster at Woodville, and is universally respected as a good citizen and trustworthy friend.

## CADY TOWNSHIP.

At the meeting of the county board, held December 2, 1864, it was voted to divide the township of Eau Galle and all of

township 28, north of range 16 west, of the fourth principal meridian, to be formed into a new township to be known as Cady. The election for organization was held the first Tuesday in April, 1870, at the school house in district No. 1, township 29, range 11. Cady is the most southeastern of the townships in St. Croix county and is bounded by Springfield and Eau Galle townships, Pierce and Dunn counties. It is drained by the Eau Galle river and Cady creek. A postoffice was established near the center of the township in 1860, D. C. Davis being the first postmaster. The first supervisors were William Holtman, Charles Palmer and Mead Bailey. The village is Hetchville, in the southeast corner of the township. The township includes 23,033 acres, having an average valuation of $19.08. There are 380 horses, valued at $22,800; 2,725 cattle, valued at $38,150; 1,120 sheep and lambs, valued at $3,360, and 295 swine, valued at $1,475. The total value of real estate is $439,500, of personal property $73,300, making a total of $512,800. The district is largely a sheep raising territory, and the people of the township have turned their attention quite extensively to grazing. Following is the acreage devoted to various crops in Cady township in 1908: Wheat, 59; corn, 362; oats, 1,128; barley, 282; rye, 11; flaxseed, 38; potatoes, 32; cultivated hay, 2,056. There are 1¼ acres of apples, with 22 bearing trees.

**David Cushing,** for over twenty years chairman of the township of Cady, is a native of Ireland, born March 14, 1844, son of James and Julia (Sheehan) Cushing. The mother died in the old country and the father came to America in 1867, settling in St. Croix county, where he continued farming until the time of his death. David came to Canada in 1861 and to the United States in 1863. He spent two years in Eau Claire county, Wisconsin, in lumbering, and located in St. Croix county in 1865. He homesteaded eighty acres of land in Cady township and purchased eighty acres, all of which he still owns. Of this eighty acres are under cultivation. Upon these acres he carries on general farming. Mr. Cushing remembers the early days when horses were almost entirely unknown in this locality and when he not only drove to church with a pair of oxen, but also did a larger part of his work with them. With the assistance of these oxen he broke the land and has since made many improvements. Mr. Cushing was married in 1868 to Susanna Riley, daughter of Hugh and Julia (McKernan) Riley. She died in 1886, leaving seven children—Julia, Mary, Elizabeth (deceased), Bridget, John, David and Kate. He was married again, his second wife being Annie O'Brien, daughter of Patrick and Mary (Pheny) Dowd, by whom he has four children—James, Ethel, Robert and Leonard. He is a member of the Catholic church and an adherent

of the Democratic party. He is a public-spirited man, a thorough believer in education and an advocate of every movement that tends to the betterment of the township. His services as chairman have been of a high degree of excellence, and his neighbors declare that they are going to keep him in that position as long as he is willing to stay.

## CYLON TOWNSHIP.

Cylon is one of the northern tier of the St. Croix county townships, bounded by Polk county and Stanton, Erin, Emerald and Forest townships. It is drained by the Willow river and also in part by the Hutton creek, upon which the village of Cylon is located. The Omaha road passes through the northern part and the Wisconsin Central through the southern part. It includes township 31, range 16, and has three villages—Deer Park, Cylon and Inlet. The first settlement of the township was made in 1855, the early settlers being Otto Natges, J. Smith, H. Fouks, E. Johnson, George Goodrich, S. W. Beel and J. Tomlinson. The township was organized in 1859. The supervisors were C. A. Hall, chairman, John Sweet and John Gibson. A postoffice was established in 1861, Mrs. John B. Gibson being the postmistress. It is a rich and populous township and was originally timber and prairie land. The township contains 23,186 acres, having an average value of $23.23 an acre. There are 425 horses valued at $25,500; 1,600 neat cattle, valued at $22,400; 600 sheep and lambs, valued at $1,800, and 200 swine, valued at $1,000; total value of real estate is $588,400, of personal property $109,300, making a total of $697,700. Following is the acreage devoted to various crops in Cylon township in 1908: Wheat, 71; corn, 411; oats, 2,101; barley, 535; rye, 82; flaxseed, 115; potatoes, 44; cultivated hay, 1,401.

**L. J. Adgate** is a native of this county, born at Troy, Wis., December 12, 1863, son of L. A. and Sarah (Lapham) Adgate. The mother was born in England and the father in Ohio. When the Civil war broke out the father was drafted by the Confederates, but being of union tendencies, he escaped and joined the federal army, serving in Company A, Fourth Kansas Cavalry. After a short time in the service, during which time he showed marked courage and bravery, he was stricken with a fever and died in a hospital. The mother, after having been burned out by the Confederates, reached the Ohio river and escaped, coming north to her home in Troy, Wis. She lived successively in Troy, Hudson and Boardman until 1873, when she was married to the Rev. J. W. Chariton, a Methodist clergyman, riding on the Cylon circuit. He died in 1903, and the widow now makes her home in River Falls, Wis. L. J. Adgate received a good educa-

tion in the public schools and then entered the normal school at River Falls, Wis. For five years he taught school and in 1884 came to Cylon and clerked for the firm of Beebe Brothers & Co., dealers in general merchandise. In 1886 he and F. M. Beebe bought out this firm and conducted the store under the name of F. M. Beebe & Co. In 1889 F. M. Beebe sold his interest to S. S. Beebe and the firm became Beebe & Adgate. In 1891 the store burned, entailing a loss of $5,000, only half of which was insured. Later Mr. Adgate started business for himself and continued same until 1893, when he sold out to R. S. Beebe. He then went to New Richmond and bought the "New Richmond Voice," a weekly newspaper. Under his management the paper increased its circulation and doubled its influence. In 1894 he sold the paper to E. J. Scott and returned to Cylon, again purchasing his old stand of R. S. Beebe. Since that time he has continued to manage the business and has made of it a pronounced success, his goods having a reputation for their quality for many miles around. In 1900 Mr. Adgate received the appointment as postmaster of the village of Cylon, which position he still retains greatly to the pleasure of the patrons of the office who have been so well served during his regime. In November, 1888, L. J. Adgate was united in matrimony with Nora McNamara, of Cylon, daughter of Michael and Katherine (Hagerty) McNamara, natives of Ireland, who came to this country and became prominent farmers of Cylon. Mr. and Mrs. Adgate have no children, but have made a home for Mrs. Adgate's brother's children, Myrtle and Margaret McNamara, to whom they have given a parent's love and care. Mr. Adgate is a staunch Republican and an active advocate of the platform of that party. He also fraternizes with the Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to Cylon Lodge, No. 6,569. He is a public spirited gentleman and an ardent friend of the public school system. He is a clever business man, but always tempers his business dealings with the milk of human kindness, and his liberal handedness has made many poor people happy. He is also a loyal friend, loving husband and a good citizen—a true gentleman in everything that the word implies.

**George A. Fouks,** now one of the well-to-do men of Cylon township, owner of over 1,200 acres of land and numerous other holdings, was born in Pennsylvania, March 22, 1847, a son of Henry and Barbara (Peterman) Fouks, who came from Germany in the early days and settled first in Pennsylvania, afterward coming to St. Croix county in 1856. In Pennsylvania the father was a coal miner, but upon coming to Cylon township he took up government land and continued farming until his death in 1901. He had the distinction of being the first man to cross

the south fork of the Willow river with a team of oxen. The mother passed away in 1887. George A. was educated in the common schools and then worked with his father, afterward starting for himself. Upon his broad and rich possessions he does general farming and stock raising. He keeps about 100 head of cattle and raises and purchases fine horses. He has made nearly all the improvements on the place, and his beautiful house, surrounded by a well-kept lawn, would be an honor to the residence sections of any large city. The barns are also large and well looked after. Aside from his farming interests, he owns stock in the Deer Park Bank, and is vice-president of that institution.

Mr. Fouks was married in 1874 to Christina Mathews, daughter of Gotlieb Mathews. This union has been a most happy one and has been blessed with eight children—Millie, born June 1, 1876; Anna, September 11, 1877; Henry, June 9, 1879; Stella, August 18, 1881; Nellie, January 7, 1885; Lavina, May 7, 1888; Walter, June 26, 1890, and Alma, March 24, 1897. Millie married Chester Thatcher, a sawmill man; Anna married Andrew Becker, and Lavina is a school teacher. All are well thought of by their associates. Mr. Fouks is a Republican in politics, but has never sought public office, preferring rather to devote his time to his own interests. He is nevertheless actively interested in public affairs and his judgment on matters of township progress is always sound. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is an attendant of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is noted for his sagacity and honesty, and well deserves the success that has fallen to his lot.

**S. V. Humphrey** is one of those men who are always alive to every possibility for the advancement and progress of the community. He was born in Emerald township, this county, May 30, 1868, a son of Thomas and Mary A. (Flemming) Humphrey. The father came to Emerald in the early days and worked in a sawmill until 1878, when he came to Cylon township and settled on the farm where S. V. has since continued to reside. The father died in 1904 and the mother passed away in 1901. S. V. was brought up on the farm and attended the public schools, afterward going to work with his father. He later took entire control of the place and now owns it. The farm consists of 360 acres of good land, 300 acres of which is under the plow. He makes a specialty of raising hogs and cattle. The farm is situated not far from the village of Cylon, and the house and barns and grounds are the admiration of all strangers who drive out that way. In 1902 Mr. Humphrey was married to Nettie Wood, who came of old pioneer stock, her parents being early settlers of Polk county, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey have three

children—Mary, Richard and Walter. Mr. Humphrey is a Republican in politics and has served as assessor three years. He affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Clear Lake, in Polk county. He was one of the ardent advocates of the farmers' telephone in this section and has always done all in his power to promote its interests. He has made all that he owns by his own hard work, and his honor, integrity and straightforwardness are beyond question.

**E. S. Jones** is a native of New Portland, Me., born in 1854, a son of S. C. and Julia A. Jones, old timers of Maine who came to this county in 1853. They settled first at Hudson on what are now the fair grounds, and after two years there moved to the city of Hudson and remained for three years. They then went to Hudson Prairie, where the father lumbered and worked in the woods. In 1868 he came to Cylon township and followed farming in the western part of the township until 1903, when he died, greatly mourned by all who knew him. The mother still lives with her sons. The father was chairman of the town twelve years and also a member of the school board for some time. The improvements on the place were largely made by the father and his sons. There were four children in the family—E. S., Charles, Nettie and Frank. E. S. lives with his brother, Charles, who owns a good farm and is one of the most popular mail carriers in this locality. Nettie married E. C. Goodrich, one of the representative men of Cylon township. A sketch of Frank is found elsewhere in this history. E. S. received a good education in the public schools and then started farming. Everything was looking bright and prosperous when a fall from a building incapacitated him from work and rendered him a cripple, unable to get about without the aid of crutches. Mr. Jones was town clerk seven years and chairman of Cylon township several terms. He is a public spirited man, and before his accident was one of the most successful and energetic men in the township. Mr. Jones was married in 1876 to Flora Goodrich, who died in 1903. He has three children—Edith, Warren and Clyde. Mr. Jones is highly thought of by all who know him. He is a man of sterling character and unsullied honor and stands very high throughout the community.

**Frank D. Jones** was born in Hudson, Wis., May 15, 1866, his parents being Simeon C. and Julia A. Jones, old timers of Maine, of whom a sketch will be found in this history in connection with that of Edwin S. Jones. Frank D. was raised on the farm and attended the public schools, afterward taking up farming for himself. In 1890 he was married to Ethel Boardman, daughter of N. C. Boardman, one of the old settlers of this county, having come here in the early fifties. He was one of the most prosper-

ous men in the county and, although now retired, still owns considerable property in this part of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have six children—Frank, Elsie, Ward, Lee, Dorris and Coit, all of whom are still at home. Mr. Jones owns 270 acres of rich land in Cylon township, nearly all under the plow; about thirty acres is heavy timber land. Upon this farm he carries on a general farming business, making a specialty of Red Poll cattle and Poland-China hogs. His place is only a short distance from the old Jones homestead. The improvements on the farm were made largely by Mr. Jones himself and everything about the place—land, house, barns and live stock—show the best of care. Mr. Jones votes the Republican ticket, but has never asked for public office, although it has been intimated to him that such asking would not be in vain. He is a self-made man, honest to the core, a hard worker and a successful farmer. He is preeminently a family man, and his greatest pleasures are received at his own fireside among his own people. Mrs. Jones is said to be one of the best cooks in this vicinity, and the children are a bright, happy bunch of youngsters who are a great credit to their parents.

**Ernest Matthews** was born in Germany, May 31, 1848. His father, Gotlieb Matthews, came to the United States in 1856, locating first at Milwaukee, Wis. Two years later he came to St. Croix county and located in Cylon township. He took up a piece of land, which he continued to work until his death. Four of his eight children are now alive, all being honored and respected people in every respect. Ernest worked on the farm with his father and attended the public schools in his native land and in this state. He later took up work for himself. He now owns 160 acres of good land in Cylon township and carries on a general farming, raising the usual crops and breeding some live stock. Mr. Matthews was married in 1876 to Hannah Hammann, by whom he has four children—Millie, Eddie, Henry and Theo, all of whom are at home. Mr. Matthews is a Republican in politics and attends the Methodist church. He is one of those quiet men who go about their own business without mixing much in public affairs. He is well liked, and there is not a person in the township who does not honor him. His fine farm shows the results of his hard work. He is always willing to make personal sacrifices if necessary that his children may obtain an education if they so desire. His special aim has been and still is to manage his affairs in such a manner that when death compels him to sever the bonds which so long have bound him to his family circle, he may take enjoyment in feeling that he has left a home which his children may call their own.

**Oluf O. Olson** is a native of Norway, born September 22,

1849, a son of Ole and Betsy (Larson) Olson, who came to this country in 1858. The parents are still alive on the old homestead, the father being upwards of eighty-three years of age. There are only two children in the family—Oluf and Anna. Oluf received a good education in the common schools of the county and then started farming. He has lived on his present place thirty-one years. He owns 120 acres of good land in Cylon township, upon which he has made most of the improvements. He does a general mixed farming. In his farming ventures he has been successful, and his industry and business sagacity have been well rewarded. He has been a grain purchaser for Wells & Maroney, Ed Sakrison and the Wisconsin Elevator Company. In 1877 he was married to Anna Finke, daughter of Henry and Anna Finke, natives of Germany, who settled in this county in 1858 and followed farming for the remainder of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Olson have been blessed with six children—Clara, William, Arthur, Ralph, Edwin and Agnes. Clara married Charles Christopherson and is living in Hudson, Wis.; Agnes married Leroy Beehe and they have rented the Maple Grove farm. Mr. Olson is one of those men to whom the term "good citizen" may well be applied, and he is one of the solid and substantial men of the township.

**John A. Smith** was born in Sweden in 1842 and came to the United States with his father in 1849, the mother having died on the steamer en route. The father settled first in Illinois, where he remained three years, after which he located in Cylon township in 1855, taking up government land. Upon this place he spent the remainder of his days. John A. received a good education in the public schools and worked on the farm with his father. In his early days he also ran a thresher ten seasons and worked in the woods several winters. In the month of August, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, Thirtieth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war in the fall of 1865, his regiment being a part of the great army of the West. He then returned to his father's farm, which he now owns. It consists of 200 acres of good land, 120 acres being under cultivation. He has made all the improvements on the place and at the present time is engaged in finishing a handsome twelve-room residence, which will rank with the best in this section of the valley. Upon his rich acres he does general farming business, raising the usual crops and breeding Shorthorn cattle, Berkshire hogs, some fowls and other live stock. He also owns several fine swarms of bees. In 1867, Mr. Smith married Sophia Ellefsen. This union has been blessed with eight children: Nettie, August T., Annie S., Loren, Edna F. and Grace L. August, the oldest son, died three years ago, while two of the children died

in infancy. Two of the daughters are married and the other three children remain at home. Mr. Smith is a Republican, and has enjoyed many years of honorable and efficient office holding. During the four years that he was country treasurer he and his wife and daughters lived in Hudson, Wis., leaving his sons to run the farm. He was town treasurer twelve years, a director of the school board fifteen years, an assessor and member of the side board for a long time. He is a member of the Old Settlers' Association. As one of the older residents, Mr. Smith stands high in the community. He is looked up to by the younger generations and respected by the people of his own age.

**Christian Torgerson** is a native of Norway, born March 4, 1840, a son of Torger Christenson, who came to this section of the country August 4, 1858. The family stopped for two weeks at Hudson, Wis., and then settled upon the present place in Cylon township. The father followed the trade of blacksmithing and died in 1863. Christian was the oldest of three children. A sketch of Louis, the other brother, will be found elsewhere in this history. Annie, the sister, is now deceased. Christian received a common school education and spent his early life much as other boys do. He worked on the farm with his father and was industrious and saving of his money. In 1878 he married Jettie Thompson. This union has been blessed with seven children—Helen, deceased; Nettie, Theodore, Anna, Harry, Hattie and Jessie. Mr. Torgerson owns 120 acres of good land, about half of which is under the plow. He carries on a diversified farming, raising the usual crops and breeding Shorthorn cattle, Chester White hogs and other live stock. The location of the farm, in Cylon township, just out of Deer Park, is an ideal one for such a place. Mr. Torgerson votes the Republican ticket and has served on the school board several years. For two years he was assessor. He attends the Methodist church. He is an honest, upright man, a considerate husband and loving father, a true friend and good neighbor. Mrs. Torgerson is noted for her motherly qualities and housekeeping ability.

**Louis Torgerson** was born in Norway, February 16, 1841, a son of Torger Christenson, one of the early settlers of St. Croix county. He learned the trade of blacksmithing with his father and with this combined the trade of carpenter. Later he became an expert in the farming business. He now owns 120 acres of good land, nearly all of which is under the plow. He does a general farming and breeds some cattle, hogs, fowls and other live stock. He built his own house, and its stability and comfortable arrangement testify to his abilities as a carpenter. On the inside Mrs. Torgerson's excellence as a housekeeper is clearly shown. The barns are commodious and well kept and the stock shows

good feeding and careful attention. Mr. Torgerson is a Republican in politics. He has served with much credit as overseer of roads and as road foreman. He is regarded as a successful man, and all his undertakings have proven profitable. He attends the Methodist church and is highly thought of by all who know him. He was married in 1875 to Anna Hansina Tronson, daughter of Andrew Tronson. Her people came from Norway in the early days and settled in this country. The father was a stone mason in the old country, but upon coming here he took up farming. Mr. and Mrs. Torgerson have ten children—Lena, born February 26, 1876; Adolph, February 14, 1878; Christ, August 27, 1880; Mabel, August 14, 1883; Alice was born December 31, 1886; Lillian was born April 20, 1889; Effie was born November 1, 1891; Hazel was born July 28, 1894; Lizzie was born October 29, 1896, and Alpha, born March 5, 1902.

## DEER PARK VILLAGE.

Deer Park has a population of 294. It has German Lutheran and Norwegian Methodist churches, a creamery, a meat market, a livery barn, a blacksmith who deals in agricultural implements and another who does not, one furniture dealer who is an undertaker and also sells agricultural implements, one dealer in hardware who sells fuel and feed, four general stores, in one of which is sold meat; a branch of the New Richmond roller mills, and the Interstate Lumber Company, a branch of the Stillwater Company.

The State Bank of Deer Park, Wis., was incorporated June 5, 1905, with a paid up capital of $10,000. The incorporators were: W. E. Webster, George A. Fouks, John Sakrison and Ed Sakrison, which comprise the present officers and board of directors. The officers are: W. E. Webster, president; George A. Fouks, vice-president; John Sakrison, cashier, and Ed Sakrison, assistant cashier. Their statement July 15, 1908, shows in surplus and undivided profits $5,131.18.

## EAU GALLE TOWNSHIP.

Eau Galle is one of the southern tier of St. Croix county townships. It is bounded by Baldwin, Cady and Rush River townships and Pierce county, drained by the Eau Galle and Rush rivers and crossed from north to south by a railroad. Its villages are Wildwood and Brookville. Eau Galle was one of the first townships in the county to be settled. The early settlers were William Holman, Andrew Dickey, Joseph Barnish and Uriah Briggs. The township, including township 28, range 16, was organized in 1858 with William Holman as chairman and the Messrs. Babcock and McCartney as supervisors. In early

days the whole township was known as Brookville. A postoffice was established in 1853 with William Holman as postmaster. Mr. Holman built the first sawmill the same year. Originally an active sawmill district, the township is now rich in farms and does a large business in general farming, stock raising and dairying. The township contains 22,046 acres, having an average valuation of $26.11. There are 375 horses, valued at $22,500; 2,550 neat cattle, valued at $35,700; 660 sheep and lambs, valued at $1,980; 170 swine, valued at $850. The value of real estate is $575,800, of personal property $87,500, making a total valuation of $663,300. Following is the acreage devoted to various crops in Eau Galle township in 1908: No wheat; corn, 95; oats, 5,437; barley, 1,368; rye, 135; flaxseed, 265; potatoes, 100; cultivated hay, 4,175.

## EMERALD TOWNSHIP.

Emerald is one of the interior townships of the county. It includes township 30, range 16, and is drained by the Hutton, Dry Run and Carrs creeks. The Central Wisconsin traverses the northeastern part and has one station, Emerald village, a populous settlement which is the center of the trade of the township. The pine and hardwood timber which originally covered the township is now largely cut off. The township was organized in 1861, the first meeting being held the first Monday in April of that year at the home of Thomas Ross, an old settler. The township is rich in farm lands and its people are progressive and industrious. Emerald is bounded by Cylon, Forest, Glenwood, Baldwin and Edin townships. The township contains 22,266 acres, having an average value of $24.09. There are 400 horses, valued at $24,000; 1,700 cattle, valued at $23,800; 460 sheep and lambs, valued at $1,380; 250 swine, valued at $1,250. The total value of real estate is $536,400, of personal property $66,200, making a total of $602,600. Following is the acreage devoted to various crops in Emerald township in 1908: Wheat, 27; corn, 266; oats, 2,978; barley, 760; rye, 205; flax seed, 153; cultivated hay, 1,837.

**Patrick B. Dunbar** was born in Spartansburg, Crawford county, Pa., March 28, 1865, son of Patrick and Ann (Kane) Dunbar, of County Mayo, Ireland, who came to America in 1858, locating at Holyoke, Mass., the father being employed in the cotton mills. In 1860 the family moved to Spartansburg, where the father worked at railroading until 1877, when he came to St. Croix county and bought 160 acres, which he broke and improved and upon which he erected a home for his family. He carried on a general farming business. He now makes his home with his son, Patrick, his wife having passed away in 1907. Pat-

rick received his education in the graded schools of Spartansburg and after leaving school learned the plumber's trade, which he continued until 1894, when he came to Emerald, and shortly after took charge of the home farm, buying his brother's interests in the estate and making a home for his parents. In 1907 he moved to the village and bought a house and lot, where he now lives, renting his farm to other parties and engaging in the elevator business. Mr. Dunbar was married, October 28, 1903, to Mary Kennedy, of Emerald township, daughter of Anthony and Mary (Riley) Kennedy, natives of County Mayo, Ireland, but now residents of this township. Mr. and Mrs. Dunbar have three children—Walter, born November 27, 1904; Francis, born April 17, 1906, and Mary A., born November 26, 1907. Mr. Dunbar is a Democrat and a member of the Catholic church. He belongs to Division No. 1, Ancient Order of Hibernians, at Cylon, and Greenwood Camp, No. 7,001, Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Dunbar is noted for his honest and upright character. He is in comfortable circumstances, and no public movement is undertaken until he has been asked his opinion in the matter. Although an eastern man, he is intensely interested in St. Croix county, and combines Eastern stability with Western progressiveness.

**Edward Dunbar** is a son of Patrick and Ann (Kane) Dunbar, of whom a sketch will be found in this history in connection with that of their son, Patrick. Edward received a common school education in Spartansburg, Pa., to which place his parents moved when he was a small boy, and then engaged with his father in farming for many years. Coming to Emerald, he purchased 120 acres, which he cleared and developed. In 1904 he erected a comfortable home. He carries on a general farming and breeds both cattle and horses. Mr. Dunbar was married, January 21, 1891, to Nellie Riley, daughter of Miles and Ann (Kane) Riley, natives of County Mayo, Ireland. They came to America in 1881 and located at Erin township. The mother died in September, 1895, and the father is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Dunbar have been blessed with eight children, as follows: Dell, born April 18, 1893; Marie, September 4, 1894; Rosella, October 13, 1896; Sibina, October 26, 1898; Edward, March 12, 1900; Miles, July 5, 1902; Joseph, April 8, 1904, and Dora, August 6, 1907. Mrs. Dunbar has three brothers, Patrick, Peter and John, and one sister, Ann, married to Joseph Millner, an engineer at St. Paul, Minn. Mr. Dunbar is a Democrat in politics and has served as chairman of the town for five years. For many years he has been treasurer of school districts Nos. 1 and 5, which office he now holds. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and also the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

## EMERALD VILLAGE.

**Henry V. Fleming,** general manager of the extensive Fleming lumbering interests, is one of the leading men of Emerald, in which township he was born March 29, 1864. He is a man of sound business judgment and genial personality, and the industry under his management has prospered and grown in a very pleasing manner. His father, William Fleming, was born in Furmanuth, Ireland, April 16, 1835, and was brought to Melbourne, Canada, when still an infant. He was educated in the public schools of that place and at an early age became a member of the Episcopal church, in the faith of which denomination he remained until the time of his lamented death. As a young man he came to Wisconsin, staying for a time in Waukesha county. He then came to Emerald township, which was then located in what was called the "Big Woods." He liked the country here so well that in 1858 he took up land and located. In 1859 he went to Canada again, and October 17 was married to Elizabeth Potten Phillips, of South Durham, Canada. He at once brought his bride to Emerald and the two began married life as pioneers of Emerald. He was well on the road of success when the war of the Rebellion broke out and, leaving his work and his family, he went to the front, where he did brave service in Company A, Forty-fourth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. At the close of the war he returned to civil life and again resumed business as a lumberman and to a considerable extent as a real estate man. During his career he bought and sold as many as 3,000 acres of land in this vicinity, and at the time of his death he owned nearly 1,000 acres of good land, which now remains in the estate, 350 acres being improved. Among Mr. Fleming's large operations was the selling at one time of 400 acres of heavily timbered pine land to the Glenwood Manufacturing Company. Some years before his death he began to fail in health and for a long time was a patient and lovable sufferer. The end came January 23, 1908, and he was laid to rest in Greenwood Cemetery at Emerald. He was the father of ten children, nine of whom are living. They are: Mary A. Schoonover, Mabel (deceased), Henry V., Alexander, Noble M., William S., George W., John J., Laura J. Lovgren and Thomas T. William Fleming was the soul of honor in business, a faithful friend and a kind and loving father. His memory will never be forgotten. Henry attended the common schools as a boy and then graduated from the high school at New Richmond, Wis. After a course in the Normal School at River Falls, Wis., he went to Valparaiso, Ind., and graduated from the business college there. Returning to

Emerald, he took charge of his father's lumber business, buying, selling and manufacturing until 1908, when his father died. He now carries on a retail lumber business for the estate. He is a very successful business man, owning, aside from his interests in the estate, 160 acres of land, 90 of which is under cultivation. He also possesses two fine houses. He is secretary and manager of the Emerald Coöperative Creamery Association, having been elected July 1, 1907. His administration has been one of growth and prosperity, and the stockholders and directors have been more than satisfied with his work and the results that he has achieved. He is a Mason and treasurer of Greenwood Camp, No. 7,001, Modern Woodmen of America. He is a Republican in politics and has been both chairman and clerk of the town. The latter position he has held for nine years, having served before at the early age of twenty-one years. Mr. and Mrs. Fleming are members of the Protestant Episcopal church. Henry V. Fleming was married June 26, 1895, to Lillian H. Long, daughter of Jackson P. and Anna M. (Harrington) Long, of Troy, N. Y., and the state of Illinois respectively. They settled at Downsville, Dunn county, Wis., where the father engaged at his trade of millwright. He was a veteran of the Civil war, having served in Company K, Sixteenth Wisconsin Volunteers. The father passed away June 9, 1901, and the mother still makes her residence at the old homestead in Downsville. Mr. and Mrs. Fleming have two children, Kenneth V., born June 6, 1901, and Danne (adopted), born September 6, 1901.

**William Gillen** is a native of Emerald, born November 27, 1871, son of Michael and Ellen (Campbell) Gillen. They came to America from Ireland in 1847 and located at Rock county, Wis., for one year. In 1854 they came to Emerald township and bought 320 acres of land, which the father broke and improved. Later he added another 100 acres, and carried on general farming until his death, February 14, 1907. The mother died February 12, 1905. William received his education in the common schools of Emerald and then took up farming with his father until 1891, when he bought a farm of 140 acres, which he broke and improved. He has continued to develop the place and now carries on a diversified farming. He was married September 2, 1896, to Annie O'Donell, of Emerald township. She was the daughter of Anthony and Bridget (McLaughlin) O'Donell, prominent residents of this township. By this union there are five children. Florence was born July 9, 1897; Gerald was born December 14, 1898; Mary was born May 9, 1902; William F. was born in June, 1904, and Margaret was born September 1, 1907. Mr. Gillen is an independent voter. From 1894 to 1897 he served the township as clerk and is now serving his fifth term as chair-

man of the town board. He is a member of the Catholic church and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

**S. E. Lindefield** is a native of Norway, born May 17, 1859, son of Salve and Ellen (Sophia) Lindefield, both of whom died in the old country. S. E. received his education in the common schools and in the Seminary of Egersund, Norway, being trained for a teacher. In 1882 he came to the United States and located in Ada, Minn., where he farmed for one year, afterward going to North Dakota and working on the railroad. He attended the English school at Sand Creek, Dunn county, Wis., two months, and then spent a year at Emerald, Wis., working on a farm for Elias Grimes. Subsequently he clerked for G. F. Hurd in the same village seven months. Leaving Emerald for eleven months, he worked at Downing, Wis., afterward returning and taking up the mercantile business with Elias Grimes in 1886. In 1888 he purchased his partner's share and has since conducted the business for himself. He carries a large stock of goods, and during all the years that he has been in business has never been charged with a dishonest act. His goods are of the best and he makes it a special aim to please his customers. He was appointed postmaster at Emerald, October 23, 1889, and held that office until March 12, 1895. He is also a notary public and as a side line handles the agency for the Phœnix Insurance Company, of Brooklyn, N. Y. He has been very successful and as the result of many years of hard labor now owns 175 acres of rich farm land near the village, in addition to valuable village property. In 1887 he married Mrs. Emma Snyder, by whom he has one daughter, Ella C., who assists in the store and is already a valuable aid to her father in his business. Mr. Lindefield is a Republican in politics and is well informed on all current events. He affiliates with the Masons, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a most affable gentleman and his friendship is highly prized by a wide circle of fellow townspeople.

**Edward McMullen,** for nine years chairman of the town of Emerald, is a progressive man who believes in thoroughness and impartiality in the management of township affairs. In the farming business he has achieved success and is looked up to as an honest, upright and able man by all who know him. He was born in Canada, September 17, 1834, son of John and Vina (Burns) McMullen, natives of Ireland who came to Canada in the early days and spent the remainder of their lives there. Edward received a good education in the common schools of Canada and also in the state of New York. He followed the business of farming for six years in New York state during his early manhood and then located in Emerald in 1864. For four

years he worked a farm on shares, after which he purchased eighty acres, which he broke and improved, now carrying on diversified farming, raising grains, vegetables, hay, live stock and fowls. His farm buildings are neat and well kept and in 1907 he erected a beautiful home at a cost of $2,000. In this home, which is well furnished and well supplied with books, Mr. McMullen and his family now reside. He was married April 5, 1855, to Catherine Kennedy, of County Clair, Ireland, daughter of Michael and Mary Kennedy. Her father died while coming to this country on a steamship. Mr. and Mrs. McMullen have seven children. John was born June 11, and is now a photographer in Burns, Ore.; Thomas P. was born January 29, 1858, and is now prospecting in the gold fields of Alaska. He married Annie McGovern. Edward, born April 5, 1860, is also in Alaska, as is Michael, who was born October 29, 1862. Mathew, born April 24, 1864, is in the meat business in California. He married Annie Martin. Peter, born June 29, 1871, lives at home, and Winnie, born February 24, 1874, married James Lavell, of Erin township, Wis. Mr. McMullen has been school treasurer for six years. He is a Democrat and a member of the Catholic church, having been a hard working and conscientious man all his life.

**Joseph Moore** is a hard working farmer, of honest and upright habits, who owns one of the well-cultivated farms of Emerald township. He is a quiet man, much devoted to his family, one who finds his greatest pleasures at his own fireside rather than in the rush and turmoil of public and political life.

He was born in this township on the old Moore homestead, June 15, 1866, son of Lawrence and Katherine Moore, now deceased, natives of Ireland, who settled in Emerald in the early days and continued farming operations with considerable success. Joseph received a good common school education, and then took up farming with his fathers and brothers, assisting in breaking, developing and cultivating the old home place. In 1901 he took possession of the place and erected a house and barns, fixing the farm up generally. He now carries on farming on a moderate scale, raising the usual crops and breeding a fair amount of live stock.

Mr. Moore was married June 14, 1892, to Mary Brown, daughter of Henry and Margaret (Shea) Brown, farmers of Warren. Her father died November 20, 1897, and her mother passed away November 4, 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Moore have eight children, as follows: Henry E., born April 21, 1893; Joseph, born December 28, 1897; Margaret, born September 12, 1898; Celestine, born June 26, 1900; Lawrence, born June 2, 1902; John H., born May 4, 1904, and died February 4, 1905; Charles, born

December 14, 1905, and died November 1, 1906, and Mary, born July 15, 1908.

Mr. Moore is a Democrat, but has never sought public office. Being the father of a large family, all of whom will be given the opportunities for acquiring a goodly store of learning, Mr. Moore is naturally interested in the public school system and is a director of the board in school district No. 1.

**Lawrence D. Moore** was born in Emerald, April 10, 1869, son of Lawrence and Katherine Moore, natives of County Cork, Ireland, who came to America in the early fifties. They located first at Hudson, Wis., where the father worked on the river for two years. He then moved to Emerald and followed farming. Lawrence D. received a good common school education and then took up farming on the old homestead, continuing same for twenty years. Subsequently he bought eighty acres of land in this township and broke the land, making general improvements. He later purchased eighty acres more, upon which he conducted the same operations. Upon this fine place now stands a beautiful residence, erected in 1898.

Mr. Moore was married June —, 1891, to Katherine Garrity, also of this township, a daughter of Edward and Katherine Garrity, who came to America some half century ago. There are three Moore children. Katherine was born March 17, 1892; Lawrence was born July 3, 1896, and Lizzie was born February 22, 1905.

Mr. Moore is a hard working man and has been most successful in all his undertakings. He is an independent voter, belongs to the Catholic church and fraternizes with Cylon Lodge, Modern Woodmen of America, and Ancient Order of Hibernians. He is also a director of school district No. 3, in which his services and his advice are highly valued.

**D. L. Padden** was born November 13, 1866, in Erin Prairie, this county, son of Dennis and Katherine Padden, natives of Ireland, born in Counties Dublin and Mayo, respectively. The parents came to America in the fifties and located first at Hudson, this state, and then in Erin township. They bought forty acres of land, which they broke, developed, improved and cultivated. In 1876 they came to Emerald and bought 240 acres of land, upon which they performed the same operations, also erecting a large house and ample outbuildings. They carried on a general farming until the time of their deaths; the mother died in 1895 and the father February 5, 1905. D. L. received a good education in the common schools and was brought up on the farm, which, with the assistance of his brothers, Frank and James, he now runs, the old homestead holdings being still kept

in the estate and undivided. The farm is a fertile one, and the brothers have brought it to a high degree of perfection, raising both crops and live stock—in fact, doing the usual diversified farming. Mr. Padden was married June 19, 1907, to Ann Neary, daughter of James and Bridget (Hopkins) Neary, early settlers of Erin, where the mother still lives. This union has been blessed with two twin daughters—Catherine and Elizabeth, born May 21, 1908. Mr. Padden is an independent voter, voting at each election as the contingencies of each campaign seem in his judgment to demand. He is a member of the A. O. H. at Cylon and a communicant of the Catholic church.

**Edward Peterson,** postmaster and general merchant at Emerald, is a native of Sweden, born May 31, 1861, son of Peter and Mary (Nelson) Peterson, natives of that country, where they spent all their lives, the father passing away in 1904 and the mother in 1905. Edward received an excellent education in the schools of Sweden and then took up coaching and railroading. In 1882 he came to America and located first at North Branch, Minn. For the next few years he followed railroading, farming and lumbering in various places in Wisconsin and Minnesota. In 1885 he located in Emerald, and after lumbering for three years engaged in shipping stock and wood to the city dealers. During that time his business integrity won the hearts of the people, and in 1897, when he was appointed postmaster, he was easily the most popular man that could have been chosen for that position. Upon receiving his appointment he engaged in the mercantile business, opening a general store. Under his regime the office has grown in importance and it now is the headquarters for two rural free delivery routes. The business also prospered, and buying two acres of village land, Mr. Peterson built a large store, which houses both his business and the postoffice. He also erected a fine brick dwelling at a cost exceeding $3,500, and his real estate holdings include 120 acres in Emerald township and 80 acres in Glenwood township. Mr. Peterson was married December 8, 1885, to Matilda Johnson, of Sweden, daughter of Swen and Christine (Lawrence) Johnson, now deceased. The subject of this sketch is a Republican in politics and has served as supervisor and juror and as a delegate several times to the Republican county convention. He fraternized with Glenwood Lodge, No. 148, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Greenwood Camp, No. 7,001, Modern Woodmen of America. He is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Edward Peterson is a hard worker and is highly esteemed and respected by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. His administration of the postoffice has been most satisfactory in every particular to all its patrons.

**Harris C. Pott,** real estate and insurance man, has achieved success at various lines of business, and is now located in Emerald, where he is enjoying in large measure a pleasant flow of prosperity. He was born in Sparta, Monroe county, Wis., January 18, 1865, son of Charles W. and Margaret (Hogue) Pott, of Lycoming county, Pennsylvania. The father was born January 10, 1819. After acquiring an education he took up harnessmaking, which he followed for sixty years. In 1897 he retired and was elected justice-of-the-peace, which office he held for ten years. In October, 1907, he came to live at Emerald, where he has since resided, making his home with his son. He is still in the possession of all his faculties, a bright and active old gentleman. The mother was born August 9, 1829, and is still living. Harris C. received his common school education in his native town and at fourteen years of age entered the employ of George D. Dunn, the leading mercantile man of Sparta. At the end of five years he entered the shoe store of J. C. Muller, where he stayed six years. The stories of the growing prosperity of the great Northwest then attracted his attention, and he went to northern Wisconsin, where he remained a short time as overseer for the Bradley Mercantile & Lumber Company. His next location was at Washburn, Wis., where he succeeded the Wood & Holgren Company in the grocery business, continuing for five years. Selling out to George Posey, he took charge of the general store of the Iron Belt Mining Company at Iron Belt, Wis., which he managed for several years. His next employment was with the Duluth Shoe Company, with whom he remained one year, afterward traveling for the Jordan & Jordan Shoe Company, of Stillwater, Minn. While working for this company he covered the Northwest, selling prison shoes to the general trade. In 1903 he settled at Emerald and with B. C. Lauer and H. C. Peters, his brothers-in-law, engaged in a general store business, which they conducted until 1906, when the place was destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of over $5,000. Mr. Pott then took up the real estate and insurance business, confining his operations entirely to St. Croix county. He is general agent for North St. Croix county and for the Conservative Mutual Fire Insurance Association, of Wisconsin. Mr. Pott was married December 12, 1896, to Miss Elizabeth Peters, of Emerald, at Hudson, Wis., by the Rev. Burnley, of that city. She was the daughter of F. F. and Minnie (Miller) Peters, natives of Germany. The parents came to America in the early fifties and located in Waukesha, Wis., where they farmed until 1873, when they came to Emerald and settled on a farm which they broke and improved, remaining until 1905, when the father built a beautiful home in the village of Emerald, in which he now lives with his daughter, Mrs. B. C.

Lauer. Mr. Pott is a staunch Republican. In 1904 he was elected justice of the peace and has served creditably since that time. He is also a member of the Republican town committee, and a Mason of high degree, being a Knights Templar. One of the evidences of his prosperity is his beautiful home and forty-five acres of surrounding land in the heart of the city. He has recently improved this place, moving and enlarging the house and making some beautiful drives. At the present time the place is as beautiful a home as one would care to see. Mr. Pott is well-to-do financially, and his word is as good as his bond. He combines sterling integrity with good business sense, and is both a true gentleman and a good citizen.

**Michael Ross** is one of the side supervisors of Emerald, which position he has held for the past five years. His administration has been accorded the hearty approval and support of his fellow citizens, and he is regarded as one of the valuable members of the town board. He was born in Hudson, this state, July, 1856. His parents were Thomas and Bridget Ross, natives of Ireland, who came to this country in the early fifties and settled at Hudson, afterward moving to Emerald township, where they first bought 160 acres, adding to this from time to time until they possessed 560 acres. The father continued to buy and sell land, carrying on general farming until his death, in 1896, at which time he owned 160 acres, most of which he had broken and improved. His wife died in 1888 at the old homestead. Michael received a common school education, and worked on the farm with his father. After the latter's death he bought eighty acres of land, which he improved. He erected a house and has since continued to carry on diversified farming. He is a good farmer and hard worker, and has been uniformly successful in his operations. Mr. Ross was married, February 2, 1886, to Mary Neary, daughter of James and Bridget (Hopkins) Neary, natives of Ireland, later well known farmers of Erin Prairie. Mrs. Ross died August 10, 1898, leaving a large family of children to mourn her loss. They are: John, of Seattle, Wash.; Bridget, wife of Thomas Welsh, of the same city; Nellie, a teacher at Superior, Wis.; Kate, married to Ray Gibson, a farmer of Erin township; James, a wholesale clerk at Duluth, Minn.; Annie, Charles and Irene, who are at home, and Pearl, a student in the high school at Superior. Mr. Ross is a Democrat in politics and for six years has been treasurer of school district No. 5, of Emerald. He is a believer in education and has given his children the advantages of considerable schooling.

**John Trickey** is a native of Hammond, Wis., born August 25, 1868, son of Jason and Martha (Johnson) Trickey, of New York state and Canada, respectively. The parents came to Wisconsin

in the early days and settled in Hammond township, where they became prominent farmers. The father died in 1875 and the mother passed away in 1882. John received a good education in the common schools of his native village and afterward took up farming, renting a place for eleven years. He then bought eighty acres at Emerald, in March, 1899, and broke the land, making the usual improvements. He has since continued to carry on general farming and has been uniformly successful in all his undertakings. A Republican in politics, he has served on the side board two years. Mr. Trickey is a member of Glenwood Lodge, No. 148, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a hard working, industrious man, a thorough believer in education, one who is always ready to help in every undertaking that is for the public good. Being one of the substantial men of the township, he is highly respected by the younger generation and well thought of by those of his own age. Mr. Trickey was married March 23, 1892, to Amelia White, daughter of Carl and Charlotte White, of Emerald, but natives of Germany. The parents came to America in 1882 and located in Vernon, Waukesha county, Wis., remaining until 1888, when they came to this township and engaged in general farming, in which they have since continued. Mr. and Mrs. Trickey have three children—Zella, born December 9, 1892; Elsie, born March 31, 1894, and Myrtle, born May 8, 1901. All are at home. Mrs. Trickey is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

## CHAPTER XLIII.

## ST. CROIX COUNTY.

### Erin Township—Forest Township—Glenwood Township—Glenwood Village—Hammond Township—Hammond Village.

Erin township, originally called Erin Prairie and still known by that title among the older citizens and their descendents, includes township 30, range 17, and is bounded by Stanton, Cylon, Emerald, Hammond and Richmond, being another of the six interior townships. It has several lakes and in the northern part is drained by several rivers and creeks. The villages are Erin, in the central part, and Jewetts Mills, on the lake in the northern part. Both are populous villages and form excellent trading points. The latter village is located on the Wisconsin Central Railroad. John Casey entered the first land in 1854. The first house was built on section 17, in May, 1855, by John Ring. Among the settlers in 1855 were about twenty families, among whom were the following: Michael Hughes, Peter Queenan, James, Michael and Thomas McNamara. The township was organized in 1858 with the following supervisors: Richard Joyce, chairman, Alexander Stevens and Peter Queenan. William McNally was the first school teacher, also the first school master. As the name of the township would indicate, the early settlers were largely from Ireland and their sturdy perseverance and hard work had much to do with the upbuilding of the county. The township has an area of 22,522 acres, valued at $31 an acre. There are 485 horses, valued at $29,100; 1,800 neat cattle, valued at $25,200; 350 sheep and lambs, valued at $1,050; 325 swine, valued at $1,625. The total value of the real estate is $708,100, of the personal property, $76,200, making a total valuation of $784,300. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in Erin township in 1908: Wheat, none; corn, 749; oats, 7,382; barley, 1,576; rye, 80; flaxseed, 370; potatoes, 750; cultivated hay, 3,275.

**John Caughlin** is a native of Illinois, born June 25, 1851, son of Richard and Ellen Caughlin, who were born in Cork county, Ireland, and afterward immigrated to New York city. Their next location was in the state of Illinois, subsequent to which they came to Erin township, Wisconsin, in 1856, purchased eighty acres, broke all the land and made improvements. The father

helped to organize the first school in District No. 4, Erin township, and had the honor of being the first clerk of the district. For a time he did a general agricultural business, also lumbering and logging on the Menominee river. In June, 1872, he sold this farm of eighty acres and purchased 200 acres in another section of the same township, breaking the land and making general improvements as on the previous farm. He raised general crops and live stock, continuing in this business until his death, November 1, 1873. The mother died July 1, 1905. John received his education in the common schools of Erin, having first attended a flat roofed schoolhouse made of logs which the settlers erected in the early days for a place where their children might receive instruction. After leaving school he took up lumbering for several years. In 1882 he took possession of the old homestead left to him by his father. He now lives upon this place and does general farming. Mr. Caughlin is an independent voter. He has been clerk of school board fifteen years, member of the school board for some time and road commissioner. He is a popular member of the Modern Woodmen and attends the Catholic church. In 1882, Mr. Caughlin was married to Kate Ward, daughter of Owen and Alice Ward, prosperous farmers of Erin township, both now deceased. This union has been blessed with six children: Anna is a teacher in the Training school at St. Croix Falls, Polk county, Wis.; Nellie is an instructor in the High school at Clear Lake, Polk county, Wis.; Katherine is a member of the faculty of the High school at Amery, Polk county, Wis.; Richard is a graduate of the High school at New Richmond, Wis.; Owen is still a student at that school, and Willie, the baby of the family, is at home.

**James Donahue** is the son of Thomas and Mary (Ryan) Donahue, born in Clinton county, New York, October 15, 1855. The parents came to that county from Ireland in 1853 and followed farming all their lives. The father died in 1856. The mother brought her family to Hudson, Wis., in 1859, and passed away in 1894. James received a good education in the common schools of Erin township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin. After leaving school he took up farming on the farm of his uncle, James Ryan, which he inherited from that gentleman. Later Mr. Donahue added eighty acres adjoining. In 1906 he purchased the farm of W. H. Riley, in the eastern part of the township. Upon these large farms, both in Erin township, he carries on general diversified farming. Mr. Donahue was married June 22, 1886, to Nellie Clennon, daughter of David and Mary (Martin) Clennon, prominent farmers of Erin township. This union has been blessed with seven children, all of whom are at home. They are: John, Mary, Frank, William, Agnes, Ervin and Walter. Mr. Donahue

is a staunch Democrat, and has served on the side board two terms, also as clerk and treasurer of School District No. 6, for twenty-five years. He is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and a communicant of the Catholic church. He is honest, hard working and upright, a good citizen in every respect. James Ryan, the uncle from whom Mr. Donahue inherited his farm, was a veteran of the Civil War. He enlisted at Hudson, Wis., in 1864, in Company A, Forty-fourth Wisconsin Volunteers, and was honorably discharged at Nashville, Tenn., in 1865. His captain was the brave Captain Brown.

**Michael C. Dunbar** is a native of Wheeling, W. Va., born July 15, 1856, son of Anthony and Helen (Manley) Dunbar. The parents came from County Mayo, Ireland, and settled in Hudson, Wis., in 1850, after which they located in Cylon, Wis., staying until 1855. The following year they bought 400 acres of land in Emerald and Erin, Wis., a part in each township. They broke the land, made general improvements and did a mixed farming. Both parents are now dead. Michael received a thorough education in the public schools, afterward taking up farming with his father. Upon that gentleman's death, Michael inherited 120 acres in Erin Prarie, Erin township, which he has since improved and developed. In 1905 he built a new house. He now carries on general diversified farming. Mr. Dunbar was married February, 1896, to Emma Bowers, of Minneapolis, Minn., daughter of John Bowers, a Minneapolis physician. They have had three children, Helen, Alice and Geneva, all at home. Mr. Dunbar is a staunch Republican, and a member of the Catholic church. Twice he has been supervisor of the town of Emerald and treasurer of School District No. 1 for three years.

**Michael G. Earley** is a native of County Mayo, Ireland, born in June, 1845, a son of John and Rose (Stephens) Earley, both natives of the same county. The father died in Ireland in 1847 and the mother died in Erin, Wis., in 1864.

Michael G. received a common school education in Ireland and Wisconsin, after which he followed log driving and steamboating on the Mississippi river for eleven years. In 1872 he bought 240 acres of land at Erin, where he now resides. At the time of the purchase the land was all wild. He broke it and made many improvements, erecting a beautiful home and the necessary farm buildings. In the early days Mr. Earley raised wheat. Later he turned his attention to diversified farming, also breeding Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs, as well as other live stock and some fowls. Upon his well equipped farm he has a sixty-five-foot well and a forty-foot windmill. Mr. Earley was married in the month of August, 1871, to Mary Garrity, daughter of Patrick and Catherine (Malony) Garrity, who

were born in County Mayo, Ireland, and came to America in the early '60s, becoming prominent farmers of Erin township. Both Mr. and Mrs. Garrity are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Earley have been blessed with ten children, all of whom are industrious and well liked.

Mr. Earley is a Democrat and a member of the Catholic church. He served on the town board four years and as treasurer of the school board one year. He has been very successful and is a great believer in education. He is known by all his associates as a tender husband, a kind and considerate father and a very prominent citizen.

**John T. Grady** was born in New Richmond, Wis., June 14, 1874, a son of Patrick and Bridget Grady, both of Ireland. The parents came to Boardman, Wis., in 1868, bought eighty acres, broke and improved the land, erected a house and other buildings and carried on a general farming industry until 1875, when they sold out and purchased 120 acres at Erin Prairie, Erin township, Wisconsin, where they broke and improved the land, raising general crops and some live stock and fowls as on the previous farm. The father died October 18, 1906, and the mother is still living on the old homestead with her son, the subject of this sketch. In the family there were six children, of whom John T. is the third. Mary married Charles Caldwell, a farmer of Hudson, Wis.; Catherine, wife of Edward Cullen, died in New Richmond, October 15, 1899; William, a farmer at Erin, married Nellie Meath; Anna married George Paul, a farmer at Hudson, and Margaret married Martin Jennings, a farmer of the town of Richmond. John T. received a good common school education and started work on the farm with his father, running a thresher every fall. He has since continued on the same farm, taking possession upon the death of his father. He has made many improvements on the old place, remodeling the buildings and bringing the farm to a high degree of perfection. Mr. Grady votes the Democratic ticket. He is supervisor of the town and clerk of the school board, having occupied the former position with great credit four terms, and the latter twelve terms. His public services have always been satisfactory, because honestly and faithfully performed. He is a self-made man, owing all that he possesses to his own hard work and sterling honesty. He is also a hard worker and a great believer in education. The family worships at the Catholic church.

**J. E. Hart** is the son of Ed. and Bridget Hart, who came to the United States in 1858 and settled in what is now Erin Prairie, Wis. They took up wild land and made extensive improvements. Aside from developing his land, the father did some hard work in the lumber woods. He was a person of great sturdiness and

strength and lived to be a very old man, dying in 1904 at considerably over ninety years of age. The mother still survives, and is more than eighty years of age, being still strong and vigorous of mind and body. They had four children: Maggie, Lizzie, J. E., and Mariah. J. E. was born on the old homestead, February 8, 1867, and has since continued to reside there. He attended the common schools in his earlier days and acquired a good education. His farm consists of 160 acres, all but twenty acres being under the plow. Some years ago Mr. Hart became actively interested in politics. For three years he was chairman of the township, and he has also served as school clerk and member of the side board. He is a communicant of the Catholic church and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

**Thomas Heffron** is a native of Ohio, born in December, 1855, son of William and Bridget (O'Hare) of Ireland. The parents came to America in 1845, living in several different places before settling in Emerald township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, where they bought 120 acres of land, nearly all timber. The father engaged in logging and worked in the woods until 1863, when he bought forty acres in Erin township, same county, which he broke and cultivated. He built a log cabin and barns, carrying on a general farming until his death, August 7, 1868. The mother passed away on the 17th day of March, 1894. Thomas received a good education in the public schools of Erin township, afterward taking up farming on his father's place until 1872, when he bought 160 acres adjoining the forty acres purchased by his father. In 1876 he added another forty acres, and in 1904 still another forty, making in all 280 acres, nearly all of which he broke and developed. He also made many important improvements. In 1892 the old homestead burned to the ground, and Mr. Heffron erected a modern farmhouse at a cost exceeding $3,000. He has also built barns and out buildings. Upon this place he does a general diversified farming, up-to-date in every particular. He breeds registered Shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs, black Spanish fowls and other live stock, aside from raising all his own horses.

Mr. Heffron was married May 15, 1895, to Anna Gavin, of Hammond, Wis., daughter of John and Anna (Hughes) Gavin, who were born in Roscommon county, Ireland, coming first to the state of Connecticut and later to Hammond, where they were among the most prominent farmers in the township. Mr. and Mrs. Heffron have been blessed with five children: Della, born February 25, 1896; Anna Alma, born August 16, 1897; William B., born October 4, 1898; Mary H., born October 18, 1899, and John R., born February 22, 1903. Mr. Heffron is a staunch Democrat and a communicant of the Catholic church. He is a member

of the Catholic Order of Foresters, and the Modern Woodmen. He has been treasurer of School District No. 1, and a director of the same for two years. He is a good citizen, highly thought of throughout the community. He is a strong believer in education, a kind husband and loving father. In the Heffron family there were six brothers and sisters, of whom Thomas is one. Mary married Patrick Kane, a farmer of Erin township, Wisconsin; David is a farmer of Hudson, Wis., married to Catherine Hayes, both being now deceased; Patrick lives at Vancouver, Wash., and married Alice Dean; Rose, wife of Joseph Lumphry, is now deceased; William, now dead, was a farmer of Three Lakes, Wis., and Margaret married Daniel Gerrity, of North Dakota. John, now of Bruce, Wis., married Bridget Henry, now deceased. The entire family has always been honored and respected.

**James M. Hogan,** one of the prosperous and successful farmers of Erin Prairie, Erin township, St. Croix county, Wis., was born in Stanton township, same county, October 2, 1869, son of Philip and Catherine (Cavanaugh) Hogan, the former a native of Ireland and the latter a native of New York state. James received a good education in the common schools of his native town and has since supplemented this with wide reading. He worked on the old homestead with the others of his family until February 14, 1904, when he located in Erin, purchased 240 acres of land, rebuilt barns, sunk a 142-foot well and erected a windmill forty feet high. Mr. Hogan is a Democrat in politics and has served on the side board three terms, at Stanton. He is a popular member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and attends the Catholic church, being well thought of by everybody. November 30, 1904, he was married to Sarah A. Riley, of St. Paul, Minn. She was the daughter of John and Ann (Padden) Riley, well known farmers of Erin. By this union there were no children. The loss of his wife, January 1, 1906, Mr. Hogan will never cease to mourn. She was a woman of fine education and beautiful disposition, deeply loved by a wide circle of friends. Socially, she was looked up to as a leader by her circle of acquaintances, and in a religious way she was of a most devout faith. She was taken away just when but little over a year of married life had been passed. She will never be forgotten and every one with whom she came in contact will be the better for having known her. She is laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery in Erin township.

**Michael Judge** was born in County Mayo, Ireland, in 1845, a son of Michael and Mary (Leonard) Judge, both natives of that county. Michael came with his parents to Canada in 1850 and subsequently lived in Vermont, New York state and Illinois. In 1866 he came to Erin, purchased 140 acres of land, made all

improvements, erected house and out buildings and started a general farming, which he has since continued. In 1876, Mr. Judge married Bridget Dunbar, a daughter of Anthony and Ellen (Manley) Dunbar. This union has been blessed with six children: May, Ellen and John are at home; Kate is a school teacher at Cylon, Wis.; and Bridget and Margaret are at home. Mr. Judge is a Democrat and a member of the Catholic church.

**Peter Meath** is a native of Ireland, born in 1842, son of John and Mary (Coleman) Meath. The parents came to Milwaukee county, Wisconsin, in 1850, remaining there until 1857, coming to Erin township the following year. They took up a section of land at the government price of $1.25 an acre. Together with his sons, the father broke all the land and made all improvements, erecting some fine buildings. He continued general farming until June 22, 1877, when he died. The mother died in the month of August, 1860.

Peter received a good common school education in Ireland and Wisconsin, after which he took up boating on the St. Croix river for three years. Subsequently he returned home and located on 120 acres of the old homestead at Erin Prairie, Erin township, presented to him by his father. He broke the land, made all improvements, built a house and barns and sunk a 122-foot drilled well. For several years wheat was the principal crop, but later Mr. Meath turned his attention to raising barley, oats and corn, and breeding graded Shorthorns, Berkshire and Chester White hogs and other live stock. Mr. Meath was married November 28, 1867, to Ann Phillips daughter of P. and Ann Phillips of Canada. Three children have blessed this union. John is a salesman at Minneapolis. Mary is a music teacher, now at home. She is very proficient, having pursued special courses in music at Prairie du Chien, Wis. Agnes, the youngest daughter, is at home. Mr. Meath is a Democrat, and for twenty-one years has served as a member of School District No. 3. The family worships at the Catholic church. Peter Meath was one of a family of six, all of whom became respected residents of this section of the county. William is a successful farmer of Erin township; Thomas was also a farmer in the same township, being now deceased. John is an Erin township farmer. Peter is the fourth of the family. Mary married Michael Martin, now deceased. She lives in New Richmond. Rose married, and is now deceased.

**Thomas F. Meath** is a native of this township, born December 23, 1867, son of John and Mary (Donahue) Meath, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of the United States. The father came to this country, and after living a short time in New York, moved to Erin township, where he bought 120 acres, which

he broke and improved. He is still living on the old homestead, carrying on a general farming industry and raising cattle, hogs and horses. Thomas F. was educated in the school of District No. 3 in Erin township. He worked on the farm with his father and did general labor in his younger days. From 1889 to 1892 he spent at Tacoma, Wash., as an agent for the Tacoma Ice Company. In 1899 he purchased a farm of 160 acres in this township, and at once started making improvements on the place. In 1900 he built a beautiful home, valued at $2,000, nicely furnished and equipped with all modern conveniences. In 1906 he erected a fine new barn, which was destroyed by fire August 13, 1908, Mr. Meath immediately erecting a finer structure, valued at $2,500. In 1907 Mr. Meath added eighty acres more, adjoining his own property. He now conducts general farming, raising vegetables, grains, hay, cattle, hogs, fowls and horses. For thirteen years he has been general manager of the New Richmond Roller Mill Company's branch at Cylon, Wis.

He was married June 28, 1893, to Mary Walsh, daughter of Thomas and Bridget (Connelley) Walsh, natives of County Mayo, Ireland, who located in Erin in the early '50s. The mother is still living. This marriage was blessed with seven children as follows: Veronica was born June 5, 1895; Charles was born July 28, 1896; Clare, August 22, 1897; Ambrose, February 2, 1899; Leonore, October 25, 1900; Richard, January 17, 1902, and Robert, July 15, 1905. Mr. Meath is a Democrat in politics, an attendant of the Catholic church, and a member of Cylon lodge, Ancient Order of Hibernians and New Richmond lodge, Catholic Order of Foresters. He has been school clerk of District No. 1 for two years. Mr. Meath has been very successful in all his undertakings and is generally regarded as a man of ability. He is a great believer in the public school system, and his children will be given the advantages of a good education.

**William Meath** was born in Ireland in 1832, son of John and Mary (Coleman) Meath. He came to Muskego, Wis., with his parents and engaged in farming with his father. Later he settled in Erin township, purchasing 160 acres of land, which he broke, making all improvements. Upon this farm he has continued to live, carrying on general farming and breeding live stock. William was married in the month of February, 1858, to Rose Barrett, daughter of John and Susan Barrett. This union has been blessed with eight children. John married Mary Celty, and lives at Fargo, N. Dak.; Frank married Mary Cunningham, and lives in Cylon, Wis.; Thomas married Anna Ginley, and resides in Erin; Anthony married Annie Fischer; Dennis attends to the farm work; Peter married Sadie Clark, and lives at Moorhead, Minn.; Ellen married William Grady, and resides in Erin, and

Mary, the youngest, married William Fitzgerald, a restaurant keeper in St. Paul, Minn. Mr. Meath enjoys the confidence of his fellow citizens. He has been town treasurer two terms and has served as a member of the school board. In politics he is a Democrat, and the family worships at the Catholic church.

**James F. Monahan** was born in Jewett, Erin township, St. Croix county, January 24, 1870. He received a good education and is now engaged in the mercantile business at Jewett. He is a Democrat in politics and for many years has served as postmaster at Jewett, a position which he still retains. He is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters. He was married July 23, 1906, to Alice Clark, of New Richmond, Wis., a daughter of Frank and Margaret (Joyce) Clark, the former of whom is now deceased. The mother still lives in New Richmond. James F. Monahan is the son of Henry and Margaret (Williams) Monahan, both born in County Mayo, Ireland. They came to Erin township in 1860, where the father bought a farm which he broke and improved. Upon this place he resided until 1906, when he sold his property and retired, going to Everett, Wash., where he now resides.

**Cornelius O'Keefe** was born in Hudson, Wis., March 21, 1858, a son of Dennis and Catherine (Walsh) O'Keefe, both of County Kerry, Ireland. They came to Philadelphia in 1849, remaining for one year, afterward locating at Belvedere, Broom county, Ill., where the father spent about nine years working on the railroad. Subsequently they came to Hudson, Wis., in the late '50s and bought a lot, upon which the father erected a house. Later they moved to Erin Prairie, Erin township, Wis., and bought 160 acres, breaking the land and making all improvements. They conducted general farming operations. The mother died in 1879 and the father is still living, being now over eighty-seven years of age, and still hale and hearty. He makes his home with Cornelius on the old homestead. In the family there were five children besides Cornelius. Katie, the oldest of the family died in Erin at the age of nine years. John died in Fargo, N. Dak., at twenty-two years of age. William is now in the far West. Daniel J. is a lawyer in the New York Life building at St. Paul, Minn. His education consisted of courses in the common schools, the State Normal school at River Falls, Wis., three years; Commercial College of St. Paul, one year, and the University of Minnesota four and one-half years. Another sister, Mary Ellen, was born in Erin and died at the age of twenty years. Cornelius received a good education in the public schools of Erin, then commenced farming with his father, an occupation which he his since continued to follow. In 1903 he purchased eighty acres of land from his father. At the present time he runs his own

farm and also cares for his father's land. Upon these farms he does a general mixed farming. Cornelius O'Keefe is not married. Both father and son have held several important offices. The father has served as director of School District No. 3, while Cornelius was deputy game warden during Cleveland's administration. The subject of this sketch is a great reader of history, and few men are better informed than he on the course of the world's great events. He is a progressive farmer and a hard worker. He votes the Democratic ticket and worships at the Catholic church.

**T. E. Riley** first saw the light of day in New York state, March 17, 1852, a son of Patrick and Mary (Monahan) Riley, both born in County Mayo, Ireland. The parents came from the old country to Rochester, N. Y., in 1846, remaining seven years. From 1853 to 1856 they were located in Janesville, Wis., afterward coming to Erin Prairie, Wis. They took up 240 acres of government land, breaking the land, making all improvements and erecting a house and other buildings. The principal industry of the father was wheat raising, which he followed until his death, June 30, 1890. The mother died on the old homestead in 1883. In the family were four sons, of whom T. E. Riley is one. John C. is at Seattle, Wash.; Philip is a prominent farmer of Erin, and William H. is a retired farmer residing at Hudson, Wis. T. E. Riley received his preliminary education in the common schools of Erin. He then took a course in the St. Croix Collegiate and Military Academy at Hudson, receiving a fine military and academic education. Upon graduation he went back to Erin and taught school for four years, after which he bought 400 acres of land, situated in Erin. This land he broke, and the improvements that he has continued to conduct have made the farm one of the finest in the valley. The house is a commodious and handsome structure, and the barn is a large building, erected in 1888 at a cost exceeding $2,000. It is generally conceded to be one of the best farm barns in the town of Erin. Mr. Riley does a general mixed farming. Mr. Riley was married April 16, 1877, to Kate Clennan, a daughter of David and Mary (Martin) Clennan, prominent farmers of Erin, both now deceased. Nine children have blessed this union: William W. died of typhoid fever while a student in the medical department of the University of Minnesota, March 24, 1901; Mary married A. Barrett, a farmer of Richmond, Wis.; Nellie F. was graduated from the New Richmond High school and the Globe Business College of St. Paul, being now employed as a stenographer for the Armour Packing Company, of St. Paul; John and Francis are at home on the farm; Katherine was graduated from the New Richmond High school and is now a teacher; Sadie is also a graduate of the same school,

and Jay and Ervin are in the New Richmond High school. For thirty years Mr. Riley has been treasurer of School District No. 5, of Erin township. He has also served as chairman of the town board for two terms. He has been successful in all his doings, and in being a hard working, upright gentleman, is a good example for the younger generation. The family worship is that of the Catholic church. Mr. Riley votes the Democratic ticket.

**M. J. Stephens** was born in County Mayo, Ireland, January 1, 1862, son of P. T. and Catherine (Barrett) Stephens, of the same county. They came to Erin township, Wis., in 1864 and bought 120 acres of land, which the father broke and improved, erecting a house and commodious buildings. His chief industry was grain raising, but he also engaged in breeding some grade Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. For twenty-five years he served as school director and was road overseer for many years, continuing a prominent farmer until his death, in 1896. His widow still survives, living with her son, M. J., at the ripe old age of eighty years. They were the parents of six children: Thomas is a farmer at St. James, Minn., and has a large family; A. P. lives with his brother, M. J.; Ellen married Michael McGonagle, now deceased, and lives at St. Paul, Minn.; Rose married Michael Naery, a farmer at Emerald, Wis.; M. J. is the subject of this sketch, and John, the youngest brother, was accidentally killed in the woods near Hammond, Wis., several years ago. M. J. received a good common school education in District No. 2, Erin Prairie, and farmed with his father for several years. He was then engaged one year in purchasing grain for the Farmers' Alliance at Jewett, in Erin township. Subsequently he returned to his father's farm, which he later inherited. The place now consists of 200 acres. Mr. Stephens has greatly improved this land, rebuilt the house and erected a new barn, completed in 1901 at a cost exceeding $1,400. Aside from doing a diversified farming on his own place, Mr. Stephens works his mother's property of eighty acres and his brother's farm of 200 acres. Upon his place he has a set of Moline Pitless scales, capacity 5,000 pounds, a 120-foot open well, and a fifty-foot windmill. Mr. Stephens was married, October 30, 1894, to Julia Ring, of Erin township, daughter of Patrick and Honora (Hawkins) Ring, well known and respected farmers. This union has been blessed with six children: Laura, eleven years old; Walter, ten years; Ervin, eight years; Joseph, four years; Catherine, two years, and Margaret, an infant. All are bright, healthy children, and a credit to their parents. The family worship is that of the Catholic church, Mr. Stephens being one of the officers of St. Patrick's church at Erin. He is a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the American Society of Equity. He was chairman of the township

in 1889-90-92-93 and is at present serving as a director of School District No. 2. At the early age of twenty-one years he was supervisor of roads, filling the position with great credit. He is now a stockholder in the Baldwin Coöperative creamery, the largest in the Northwest, with an equipment up to date in every respect. In 1907 this creamery did a business of over $157,000. Mr. Stephens is an energetic and able business man, a thorough master of the farming industry. He is honored for his business judgment and financial integrity, and is an earnest believer in the cause of education.

**Thomas Walsh,** now deceased, will long be remembered for the influence that he had on the life and growth of the township of Erin. He was born in County Mayo, Ireland, in the month of December, 1835, son of Edward and Mary (O'Malley) Walsh, who came to America in 1837, locating at Andover, Allegheny county, N. Y. The father died in 1878 and the mother passed away in 1886. Thomas was educated in the public schools of Andover, N. Y., and then worked with his father on the farm until 1858, when he came westward and located for two years at Beloit, Wis. In 1860 he came to Hudson, Wis., and worked on the river, logging, combining this occupation with farming at Erin township, where he bought forty acres of land. He took an active interest in politics and rapidly became a leader in the Democratic party, a powerful factor to be reckoned with in every political undertaking. In 1877 he was elected sheriff of the county and served two years. After this he returned to his farm. Subsequently he purchased eighty more acres and added to his original holdings from time to time until he owned 320 acres of good land. He did the breaking and developing himself, and erected all the necessary buildings, including a pleasant, well-furnished home. He carried on general farming with much success. In 1899 he suffered a stroke of paralysis, the attack being repeated four times without fatal result. This great shock to his system resulted in the impairing of his vitality, however, and he succumbed to illness, April 13, 1907. Mr. Walsh served nineteen terms as chairman of his town, and was also a leader on the county board. He was one of the first jury commissioners appointed in this county, and was largely instrumental in securing for New Richmond the state insane asylum. His influence on public affairs gave him the title of "Czar of Erin" and he bore the title well. He was loved by his followers and esteemed by his opponents, being a man of whom everyone thought well. He was the father of thirteen children: William is a traveling salesman living in Hudson; Mary is the wife of Thomas Meath, an elevator man of Cylon; Patrick H. is superintendent of the Kaslo Railroad and Navigation Company, of

Kaslo, B. C.; Edward is a member of the firm of Gardner & Walsh, wholesale plumbers of Tacoma, Wash.; Thomas C., purchasing agent for Porter Bros., lives at Vancouver, Wash.; Richard C., a constructor for the Great Northern Railway Company, died in 1901, at the age of twenty-eight; Michael J. is a rural mail carrier at New Richmond; Winnefred E. died at fourteen; Frank E. is a bookkeeper in the Willard Hotel at St. Paul, Minn.; Owen died in 1897 at eighteen; Janie is the wife of Louis Peterson, and is at home; Nora died in infancy, and Charles died at five months. The mother rents her farm to L. Peterson and lives with her daughter, Janie, on the old homestead.

Mr. Walsh was married December 2, 1863, to Bridget Connelley, daughter of Patrick and Winnefred (Stephens) Connelley, natives of County Mayo, Ireland. They came to America in 1843 and settled in Allegheny county, New York. They later came to Erin township and purchased eighty acres of land, which they broke and improved. Mr. Connelley died in 1899 at the age of ninety-one years, and the mother, Mrs. Connelley, passed away June 22, 1908, at the age of ninety-five years. Both were highly respected citizens of the township.

**Daniel W. Wells** is a native of County Mayo, Ireland, born in July 1865, son of John and Mary (Dixon) Wells, who lived and died in the old country. The father died March of the same year that Daniel was born. In the family there were five brothers and sisters besides Daniel. Charles and William are farmers of Erin township, Wisconsin; Patrick was killed in the great cyclone of 1899; John met his death in a coal mine in Pennsylvania in 1880, and Mary is married and resides in Philadelphia. Daniel received his common school education in Ireland, afterward taking up farming, which he continued in his native county until 1883, when he came to Erin township and purchased 160 acres. He rebuilt the house and erected a large barn, completed in 1906, at an estimated cost exceeding $2,000. Mr. Wells was married May 27, 1898, to Kate Riley, daughter of John and Mary (Dixon) Riley, of Mayo county, Ireland. One son has blessed this union, John J., born October 27, 1899.

The father and mother died in the old country. Mr. Wells votes the Democratic ticket, attends the Catholic church and belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters.

## FOREST TOWNSHIP.

With the exception of Glenwood, Forest is the youngest of the townships in St. Croix county. At a meeting of the county board, held December 16, 1880, it was ordered that all of township 31, range 15, then a part of Cylon, be detached to form a new town, to be called Forest, the first meeting to be held on

the first Tuesday in April, 1881. The organization was perfected December 10, 1881, with S. D. Love as chairman of the first board of supervisors. The town was originally heavily wooded and the original settlers in many cases cut a trail through the woods to their locations. The woods have now been cleared to a great extent and the township is rapidly becoming an important agricultural center. Forest is situated in the northeastern corner of the county and is bounded by Polk and Dunn counties and Glenwood, Emerald and Cylon townships. It is crossed by a railroad and drained by several streams, the Willow river having its source in this township. Hempel is a little village in the southwestern part. The township contains 23,665 acres, having an average valuation of $13.12; 265 horses, valued at $13,250; 1,480 cattle, valued at $20,720; 2,120 sheep and lambs, valued at $6,360; 180 pigs, valued at $900. The total valuation of real estate is $310,700; of the personal property, $49,500; making a total of $360,200. Following is the acreage devoted to various crops in Forest township in 1908: Wheat, 16; corn, 80; oats, 923; barley, 259; rye, 26; flaxseed, 16; potatoes, 40; cultivated hay, 1,400.

**A. G. Anderson** is one of the early settlers of this part of the country. He remembers the time when his people were one of four families of white folks in Pierce county, this state, the remainder all being Indians. He has seen as many as 500 Indians together, some of them still savage, and decked in all the paint and feathers of war. He saw the beginning of the first building that was ever erected in River Falls, Wis., and has many interesting stories to tell of the days when all kinds of wild game, including deer, wolves, wild cats, etc., abounded in wilds where populous villages now stand. Mr. Anderson was born in Norway, November 5, 1847, a son of Guturm and Christina Anderson. His parents came to the United States and settled in Pierce county in 1853. The father has followed farming all his life and is still living in River Falls, being over ninety-three years of age. A. G. worked on the farm and attended school in his earlier days, afterward working in the woods until twenty-six years of age. He then spent six years in a flour mill, being manager of all the teams and teamsters. After this he rented a farm for two years, then came to Forest township, St. Croix county, in 1881. He purchased a place in the woods and cleared the land, making many improvements. He now owns 236 acres of land, 160 being under the plow. Mr. Anderson still clings to the memories of early days and continues to reside in the log cabin which he built when he first settled here. He carries on general farming, raising some stock and selling considerable cream. Mr. Anderson's wife and children have all helped to make the home, and Ray and

Victor are the principal farmers on the home place now, doing most of the work. Mr. Anderson was married in 1877 to Semelia Headmark, daughter of Andrew and Sophia Headmark, by whom he had eight children: Augusta was a dressmaker. She married Michael Dorgan, of Hudson, and died in the month of March, 1908. Hilda is a dressmaker; Tobie received his education at McCoy's bank in New Richmond, Wis., and is now cashier of a bank in Tacoma, Wash.; Clyde is a graduate of the Canton Business College at Minneapolis, Minn., and is now bookkeeper for the Northwestern Telephone Company at Fargo, N. Dak.; Ray is at home; Sadie is a school teacher, and Victor and Frank are at home. Mr. Anderson is a Republican in politics and has served on the side board for six years. He has also been school trustee for five years. He is an honest, hard working man, who has earned everything that he possesses by his own labors. The family are members of the Methodist church.

**C. W. Sage** is one of those men who, by working hard on their own farms, have assisted greatly in the general development of the valley. When he came here his farm was covered with heavy timber, and he had to cut a trail to it, so thick were the woods in those days. He was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, March 17, 1854, son of George and Caroline (Mason) Sage, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively. In the family there were seven children, six of whom still survive, worthy offspring of worthy forebears. The father died in 1894, at Wild Rose, Waushara county, Wisconsin. The mother is living at the same place, and is in good health at seventy-six years of age. C. W. attended district school and worked on the farm until 1877, when he came to St. Croix county and settled on his present place in Forest township. Upon coming here, he bought 120 acres of land, one half of which he has cleared. He has made all the improvements on the place and carries on general farming, also raising some live stock. He was married in 1881 to Mary Thomas, daughter of John and Elizabeth Thomas. John Thomas came to this vicinity in 1875 and ran a stave mill. He now resides in Hawkins. Mr. Sage has three children: Ella is married to Robert Schultz, a blacksmith, and George and Griffith are at home. Mr. Sage is a Republican in politics and has ably served as chairman of Forest township, which position he occupies at the present time. He was town clerk ten years, and has also held school office. He fraternizes with Clear Lake Lodge No. 272, I. O. O. F. Mr. Sage has not sought to acquire wealth of money, but is rich in the friends that he has made. Of a genial and pleasant disposition, to know him is to like him, and no one meets him without feeling that he has become acquainted with one who fully deserves the title of "good fellow." Mr. and Mrs. Sage are

hospitable people, and their home is ever open to their numerous friends, who always have a good time, and some samples of superfine cooking, whenever they visit there.

## GLENWOOD TOWNSHIP.

Glenwood township is the youngest of the twenty-one townships in St. Croix county. It was set off from Emerald in 1885 and embraces township 30, range 15. Like Forest, it was originally a region of pine and hardwood, and has now been cleared for agricultural purposes. It is crossed by two railroads and well drained by streams that flow eastward into the Menomonie. H. J. Baldwin was chairman of the first board of supervisors. The township is bounded by Dunn county and Forest, Emerald and Springfield townships, and has two villages, Glenwood and Downing. The township has an area of 21,993 acres with an average valuation of $15.17. There are 300 horses, valued at $1,500; 1,950 neat cattle, valued at $27,300; 200 sheep and lambs, valued at $600; 120 swine, valued at $600. The total valuation of real estate is $338,700; of personal property, $51,200; making a total of $389,900. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in Glenwood township in 1908: Wheat, 10; corn, 40; oats, 385; barley, 145; rye, 10; flaxseed, 10; potatoes, 25; sugar beets, 10; cultivated hay, 405.

**William Steven** was born in Scotland, March 6, 1850, son of William and Ann (Craig) Steven. His father came to this country when young William was a boy, and remained for a time in New Jersey, afterward locating in St. Paul, in 1871, passing away at Glenwood in 1898. William received his education in Scotland and in New Jersey. He then worked at market gardening and carpenter work in St. Paul until 1873, when he came to St. Croix county and toiled at farming in Star Prairie until 1884. He was a hard worker and saving of his money, and in 1884 he was enabled to purchase 160 acres of land in Glenwood township. He improved the farm, and made many alterations, bringing the place to a high stage of cultivation. He now owns 200 acres of rich land, about 160 acres of which is under the plow. He does general farming and also has large crops of sugar beets, which have proven a successful venture. In 1878 Mr. Steven was married to Ellen Boardman, who came of the pioneer family of that name, of whom mention will be found in the sketch of Grant C. Boardman, which appears in this work. This union has been blessed with the following children: Margaret C., born March 30, 1880; James J., born February 18, 1884; Thomas S., born September 10, 1885; John B., born August 9, 1888; William, born March 14, 1891; Herman M., born November 14, 1893; Robert R., born January 6, 1896; Isabella, born May 31, 1898, and

Mary, born October 13, 1900. Mr. Steven votes the Republican ticket, and is at present ably serving as chairman of Glenwood township, in which capacity he is giving general satisfaction. He belongs to the Masonic order, and is one of the successful farmers of this vicinity. His honor and integrity are above reproach, and his opinions are always regarded with respect. Mrs. Steven is a woman of many accomplishments, and the sons and daughters are all a credit to the training of their parents. The family attends the Methodist church at Glenwood, Wis.

## GLENWOOD VILLAGE.

Glenwood village has a population of 905; the First Bank of Glenwood, with a paid-in capital of $5,000; one newspaper, the "Tribune"; one shoemaker, one photograph gallery, two meat markets, three dealers in agricultural implements, one tailor, a dealer in lumber, a restaurant, where confections are sold; one baker, who sells confectionery; one harness shop, one dentist, one drug store, two blacksmith shops, Light and Power Company, one undertaker and dealer in furniture, two saloons, two millinery stores, a creamery, one dealer in cement, one dealer in flour and feed, two general stores, two hotels, one jewelry store and telephone service.

## HAMMOND TOWNSHIP.

According to the assessors the average value of the land per acre in Hammond township is greater than elsewhere in the county. This is due to the fact that not only is the soil deep and rich, and practically level with only a gentle roll, but the ground is practically all tillable and under cultivation, there being little wild or waste land in the entire township. The township is near the center of the county, bounded by Erin, Baldwin, Rush River, Pleasant Valley and Warren townships. It includes township 29, range 17; is crossed by a railroad, contains a pretty body of water, known as Bushnel's lake, and also a portion of Pine lake, and is drained by the Rush river and its branches. Among the first settlers were the Peabodys, James R. Ismon, Rev. William Egbert, Rev. George Spalding, Mert Herrick, John Thayer, Mrs. Adams, John Nelson and Thomas Byrnes. The township was organized September 16, 1856, with A. G. Peabody as chairman and John G. Peabody as clerk. There are 22,120 acres of land in the township, valued at $37.55 an acre, making an aggregate of $832,400. There are 580 horses, valued at $34,800; 1,950 neat cattle, valued at $27,300; 900 sheep and lambs, valued at $2,700; 460 swine, valued at $2,300; total value of real estate, $832,400; total value of personal property, $83,000; making a grand total of $915,400. Hammond township contains Hammond

village and a part of the village of Baldwin. Following is the acreage devoted to various crops in Hammond township in 1908: Wheat, 43; corn, 1,579; oats, 6,145; barley, 1,358; rye, 80; flaxseed, 83; potatoes, 63; sugar beets, 3; cultivated hay, 3,337.

**Frank Anderson** is a native of Waukesha, Waukesha county, this state, born August 29, 1856, son of Frank and Sarah (Sayers) Anderson, natives of England, who came to America in 1855 and located at Waukesha, where they remained six years. In 1861 they came to Hammond township and purchased eighty acres of land, adding from time to time until they owned 440 acres, nearly all of which was broken by the male members of the family, wheat being the principal crop raised. The father died in June, 1878, and the mother passed away in June, 1905. Frank received a good education in the public schools of Hammond, after which he took up farming with his father. At the time of the latter's death he took charge of the estate, which he has developed and improved, erecting modern farm buildings and a beautiful house. Mr. Anderson is unmarried, and has four sisters and one brother. Alice married T. J. Wilford, rural carrier of Hammond; Sarah married M. N. Obsien, a barber of New Richmond, this state; Emma died at five years; Hannah M. is at home, and E. C. is serving his second term as treasurer of St. Croix county. Mr. Anderson is a staunch Republican, and has served terms as clerk and treasurer of School District No. 6. He affiliates with the Congregational church. His chief aim in life has been to be honest and upright. There is no one who lives who can say a word against him, and he is one of those men whom to know is to like. His farm is well kept, and he is well to do, his hard work having been crowned with success.

**Elihu Bushnell** is a native of Saybrook, Conn., a son of Richard H. and Julia A. (Chapman) Bushnell, both natives of the Nutmeg state. His father, Richard H. Bushnell, was a wheelwright by trade. In 1861 he moved to the lighthouse at the mouth of the Connecticut river, a short distance out in Long Island sound, where the family remained six years. In the meantime Elihu Bushnell, from whom our subject was named, a brother of Richard H. Bushnell, came west and bought 160 acres in Hammond township, and forty acres of the Tubman place, in the same township. He died, and then Richard H. Bushnell, father of our subject, came west and carried on the farm. The 200 acres was to be equally divided, each brother taking half, but Richard H. purchased twenty more acres from the heirs of his deceased brother, thus giving him 120 acres and the heirs eighty acres. Richard H. Bushnell continued to carry on general farming until the time of his death, March 1, 1881. His widow and children still reside on the old homestead.

Richard H. Bushnell was first married to Mary Ann Kirkland, whose mother's name was Polly Tilley. Mrs. Mary Ann Kirkland Bushnell was descended from Sir John Tilley and also from the Kirklands, who came over in the Mayflower. By this union there was one child, Miss Mary Ann Kirkland Bushnell, born November 2, 1847, and died March 30, 1903. The children of Richard H. Bushnell by his marriage with Julia A. Chapman are: Henry C., born August 29, 1854; Elihu, born July 19, 1857; Sarah S., born September 21, 1859, and Nannie M., born February 7, 1863. Nannie M. married Elbert E. Peck, June 7, 1882, and has six children: John Ray, born August 16, 1885; Henry Allan, born June 13, 1887; Sarah Estelle, born May 1, 1889; Ella Caroline, born January 23, 1891; Cora Julia, born February 23, 1894, and Adelbert Edwin, born April 17, 1899. The subject of this sketch received a common school education and then took up farming with his father until the latter's death, since which time he has assumed charge of the place, doing general farming. He owns eighty acres of his own, aside from his interest in the home farm. Mr. Bushnell is not married. He is a staunch Republican, as was his father before him. He is a member of the Congregational church and superintendent of the Sunday school of that church in Hammond. He fraternizes with the Modern Woodmen and the Odd Fellows.

**Fred L. Pitts** was born October 20, 1875, in Hammond township, son of J. L. and Sarah (Holt) Pitts, natives of Maine and early pioneers of this county, living now in River Falls, this state. Fred received his elementary education in the Hammond public schools, afterward taking a course in the River Falls Normal school. His first work was with his father on the old homestead, which, in 1905, he purchased from his parents. He now carries on general farming on a large scale, owning, aside from his 160 acres in Hammond, 120 acres in Baldwin township. Since acquiring possession of the home place Mr. Pitts has made many improvements. Mr. Pitts was married June 27, 1901, to Edna, daughter of A. B. and Mary L. (Smith) Chapin, of River Falls, formerly of Albany, N. Y. They were early Wisconsin pioneers and now live at Libby, Minn., where the father took up a large lumber claim. Mr. and Mrs. Pitts have two sons, Earl and Lyman.

The subject of this sketch is an independent voter, a communicant of the Congregational church and a member of several fraternities.

**Edward Tubman** is a native of Brooklyn, N. Y., born August 16, 1844, son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Hutchison) Tubman, the mother being a native of Scotland and the father of Ireland. The parents came to America in the early '30s and remained

in Brooklyn, N. Y., until 1850, when they moved to Waukesha county, this state and followed farming for several years. In 1856 they came to Hammond township and purchased eighty acres of land, which they broke and developed, carrying on general mixed farming for the remainder of their lives, the father dying June 16, 1881, and the mother passing away October 2, 1885. Edward received his education in the common schools of Hammond. At once upon leaving school he enlisted in the Hudson City Guards, in the spring of 1861, and drilled with that body until autumn of that year, when he enlisted at Prescott, this state, in Company A, Twelfth Wisconsin Volunteers. Colonel George E. Bryant was in command of the regiment and Captains McClyde and Maxson were at the head of the company. He was with Grant at the siege of Vicksburg and accompanied Sherman on his famous march to the sea. During his service he received a bad hand wound and was honorably discharged at the close of the hostilities, at Louisville, Ky. Returning to Hammond, he took up farming, buying 120 acres, which he broke and improved, erecting a beautiful home and commodious buildings. He has since continued to carry on general diversified farming, raising the usual crops and breeding stock, making a specialty of Percheron horses. Mr. Tubman was married June 26, 1870, to Mary L., daughter of George and Sarah (Denwick) Longworth, early settlers and prominent farmers of Warren township, this state. The father was treasurer of Warren township for twenty years, holding that position at the time of his death. Mr. and Mrs. Tubman have two children: Sarah E., born August 29, 1870, is at home, engaged in the millinery business. George, born April 17, 1880, married Annie Walsh and farms on the old homestead. Mr. Tubman is a Republican in politics, having served on the board of supervisors for two years and on the school board for a considerable period. The family are members of the Methodist church. The subject of this sketch is a man of strong convictions and staunch character, an unfailing adherent to duty. As a soldier he was brave and fearless and as a farmer and citizen he is honored and respected.

## HAMMOND VILLAGE.

Hammond village has a population of 445, a bank, known as the State Bank of Hammond, with a paid-in capital of $10,000; three dealers in agricultural implements, four saloons, one livery barn, one furniture and undertaking establishment, Consolidated Lumber Company (a branch of the Stillwater Company), one meat market, five general stores, one jewelry store, telephone service, one wholesale dealer in grain, hay, etc. (branch of Ashland concern), one newspaper, the "Hammond News"; one hard-

ware store, one dealer in musical instruments, one harness shop, two blacksmith shops, a restaurant, a feed mill, roller mills (branch of New Richmond concern), one wagonmaker, a creamery, one hotel, one grocery, dealer in cigars and confectionery and an elevator. There are three churches—the Catholic, Congregational and Methodist.

**P. C. Anderson** was born in Norway, August 11, 1849, son of Hawkni and Ellen Anderson. He came to this country in 1869 and located on a farm in Hammond. Previous to this he had received an excellent education in the old country. He worked on a farm in the township of Hammond and then came to the village to work for the same man in a hardware store. He continued in this store until 1878, when he built a shop, where he has since made a business of selling machinery. In 1892 he saw the need of a financial institution in Hammond and was instrumental in organizing the Bank of Hammond, which operated in his machine shop office while the fine brick block, which it now occupies, was being built. The bank has a capital stock of $10,000, one half of which is owned by Mr. Anderson, who is at present the cashier and has previously served as president. Mr. Anderson was married in 1878 to Celia, daughter of Dr. George L. Francis. There are two children. Zelma lives at home and Harley is assistant cashier and stockholder in the bank. Mr. Anderson has been an officeholder in the village since the time of its incorporation, in 1882. He was mayor for a number of years, also treasurer and supervisor. In 1906 he was elected to the legislature on the Democratic ticket, winning over a Republican majority of 1,200, which he overcame, and ran 426 ahead. He is a Democrat in politics, and has always been a leader in public opinion and affairs. He is a Mason and a member of the I. O. O. F. Mr. Anderson has dealt more or less in real estate and is the owner of considerable property in and about Hammond. The Bank of Hammond will stand as a perpetual monument to his far-sightedness and business sagacity.

**E. L. Boothby** is the son of Jonathan and Grace Boothby, and was born on the 21st day of August, 1849. Jonathan Boothby was descended from one of the early Maine families and served in Company I, Seventeenth Maine Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war. Dr. Boothby received his primary education at the academy at Gorham, Cumberland county, Me., and took the collegiate course at the Wesleyan Academy, Wilberham, Mass. Later he was graduated from Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H., class of 1875. Upon graduation he came to Hammond and has continued his practice here without opposition. He is greatly devoted to his profession, and at times the demand for his services has been so great that he has gone forty days without having

his clothes off. During the course of his work as a physician he has served as county coroner for forty years, and has been chairman of the county board and side board so often he has lost track of the number of times. He is one of the commissioners who had charge of building the insane asylum at New Richmond. Dr. Boothby was married in 1875 to Alice Wilcox, of River Falls, daughter of Dr. J. R. and Lucy Wilcox, of Vermont, who came to River Falls in the early '60s. Dr. and Mrs. Boothby have three children: Carlton, an insurance man at Portland, Ore.; Jonathan, editor of the paper at Menomonie, Wis., who served in the Philippines in 1898, and Grace, who is the wife of E. L. McCullough, of Chatfield, Minn. The youngest son, Harold, has just graduated from high school. In his leisure moments Dr. Boothby has developed his place, rooting out oaks and practically building the house himself. Burtman X-rays and other up-to-date appliances make his office well equipped in every respect. He is a Republican and a member of the I. O. O. F.

**F. G. Cave** was born in Wood county, Ohio, on the 29th day of December, 1869, and is the son of Samuel and Caroline Cave. Samuel Cave died when his son was an infant and young Cave came to Wisconsin with his mother in 1869. For a short time he lived with his mother in the town of Rush River. Later he located in Pleasant Valley, remaining there with his mother until he was eighteen, receiving his education in the public schools. From the time he was eighteen until he reached twenty-five he farmed it on his own account, then came to Hammond in 1888. Two years later he started a livery stable and has conducted the business ever since. He was married in 1888 to Mary Carter, a daughter of one of Wisconsin's original families. Mr. and Mrs. Cave have two children, Howard K. and Clifford G. Mr. Cave is a Republican in politics, so far as national questions are concerned, but in local and county matters he votes for the man he deems best qualified to fill office, irrespective of party affiliations. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. His business has given him a wide acquaintance with the traveling fraternity, among whom he has a reputation for being always accommodating and willing to please.

**Edward Gardiner** is the son of James and Sarah Gardiner, and was born in Kingston, Canada, on the 1st of May, 1841. His parents died when he was quite young. At the age of eighteen years, young Edward came to this state and located on a farm not quite two miles out of Hammond, taking up some school land. Here he farmed for eleven years, and then came to the center of Hammond to run the Pioneer Hotel and livery stables. This property was destroyed by fire and Mr. Gardiner rebuilt it under the name of Gardiner Hotel, running it for fourteen years.

He was then elected county treasurer two years, being the only man who won on the Democratic ticket that election. After this Mr. Gardiner went to Minneapolis and conducted a livery two years. He then returned to Hammond and engaged in the hardware business twelve years, retiring in 1904. He owns considerable property, including town holdings, in Hammond, city holdings in Minneapolis and stock in the Bank of Hammond, of which he is a director and vice president. He is a Democrat in politics, and has held all the offices of the town, such as president of the village, treasurer of the township, member of the school board, etc. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F., in which order he has held several offices. In 1861 he was married to Marion Ross, daughter of William and Marion (McKay) Ross, who came to Canada from Glasgow, Scotland, where their daughter was born in 1842. Mr. Ross moved from Canada to Hammond in the early days, and until the time of his death devoted his life to farming. He was treasurer of the town thirteen years. Mr. Gardiner is still a hard-working man and enjoys the universal esteem and respect of his fellow citizens.

**Henry Geurkink** is a native of this state, born in Sheboygan county, August 23, 1872, son of G. J. and Jane Geurkink, natives of Holland. The parents came to America and located at Milwaukee, where they remained until 1866, when they removed to Sheboygan county. There the father bought sixty acres of land, which he broke and improved, carrying on general farming until 1882, when he sold out and moved to Hammond township, purchasing eighty acres, where he farmed until 1885. He then sold this place and acquired 160 acres in Baldwin township, which he worked until 1894, then retiring to live in the village, where he now owns a nice home and continues to reside. Henry received a good education in the common schools and farmed with his father until twenty-one years of age. He then rented a farm for seven years, afterward purchasing eighty acres in Hammond township, which he has greatly improved, building a fine new barn, valued at $1,500. He now carries on general farming, raising general crops and some stock, being a great fancier of horses. Mr. Geurkink was married November 25, 1901, to Dora Doornink, daughter of William Doornink, a native of Holland, but now a prominent farmer of Baldwin township. Mr. and Mrs. Geurkink have one child.

**E. B. Heebink** was born at Aalten, Holland, July 13, 1849, a son of Garrett John and Johannah (Snoeyenbos) Heebink, natives of that country. His parents came to America in 1854 and located at Oostburg, Holland township, Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, where they bought thirty acres of land and built a house, also conducting a general store from 1855 to 1861. In 1866 they

sold their original thirty acres and two years later purchased eighty acres more in the same township. They broke all the land, erected buildings and carried on a general farming until 1871, when they sold out. They came to Hammond, Wis., the following year and acquired ten acres of land, upon which they constructed a beautiful home, where they resided until their death, the father passing away in 1887. E. B. received a good education in the common schools of Sheboygan county, remaining on the home farm and working with his father until twenty-two years of age. At that time he bought fifty-five acres of land in Hammond township, breaking the land and erecting buildings. For a time he did a diversified farming and then sold the fifty-five acres to acquire 160 acres in the same township, the place being the one upon which he now resides. He broke a part of the land and at present has nearly all of it under cultivation. In 1890 he built a comfortable house and the following year erected a large and commodious barn. He is one of the up-to-date farmers of Hammond township and everything that he has undertaken has prospered. He raises the usual crops and makes a specialty of Hereford cattle and Poland-China hogs. He also has a flock of Brown Leghorn fowls and breeds some horses. Mr. Heebink was married April 7, 1874, to Gertrude Brethonwer, daughter of Adrian and Gezena (Rensink) Brethonwer, of Sheboygan county. This union was blessed with five children: George is a merchant in Baldwin township. He was born May 15, 1875, and married Cora Wilford. Edward is a farmer of Baldwin. He was born February 2, 1877, and married Elizabeth Snoeyenbos. Anna was born July 7, 1879, and married Joseph Tehennepe, a harnessmaker of Baldwin. Cena attended the normal school at River Falls and now teaches. Egbert graduated from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and is now a civil engineer at Leavenworth, Kan. E. B. Heebink was married the second time to Mary Esselink, also of Sheboygan county, daughter of Hendrick and Janna (Wiggers) Esselink, natives of Holland, where they lived and died. This marriage resulted in four children: Henry was born January 18, 1887; a little boy died in infancy; Jessie was born December 10, 1891, and Walter was born July 9, 1895. These three are at home with their parents. Mr. Heebink is a stanch democrat, and has served on the school board of district No. 1, Hammond and Baldwin, for six years. He is a member of the Presbyterian church. Through life he has been a man who has placed honor above everything else, and his reputation is unstained. He is a loving father and devoted husband, a genial companion and a true friend.

**William P. Johnson** is a native of New York state, born in old Johnstown, September 9, 1821, a son of David and Maria

(Beadle) Johnson, both natives of New York state. The father was a shoemaker and followed that trade until his death in 1823. The next year, the mother moved to Permelia, Jefferson county, N. Y., where she married Timothy Chapman. They resided in Permelia until 1847, and then emigrated to Canada, where the mother died, in 1851. William received a common school education in his native state, and went to Canada in 1841, where he followed farming until October, 1855. He removed to Kenosha county, Wisconsin, farming until May 28, 1860. June 30, of that year he came to Hammond township and bought eighty acres of land. To this he added several times until he owned 500 acres. He broke about 300 acres of this land and made all improvements, building three houses, besides the usual barns and outbuildings. He carried on a general line of farming, raising the usual crops and breeding Shorthorn, Holsteins and Polled Angus cattle, Poland China and Suffolk hogs, Southdown sheep, Plymouth Rock and Black Leghorn fowls. He conducted this farm until 1906, when he sold the place and retired to Hammond village, where he lives with his son. Mr. Johnson was married in Canada, December 20, 1843, to Parney Plumb, daughter of Festus and Martha (Huntly) Plumb, whose sketch will be found elsewhere in this volume. Three children blessed this union: Martha M. married Jason Trickey. M. E. is a merchant at Hammond, Wis. He married Mary Egbert of that place. Sylvanus F. is a farmer in Illinois. He married Martha McCulluth. Mr. Johnson is a staunch Republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He also has the honor of being a veteran of the Civil war. He enlisted in the Union army in 1863 at Hudson, Wis., serving in Company A, Forty-fourth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, under Colonel Symes and Captain Brown. He took part in the battle of Nashville, Tenn., and other engagements, being discharged July 15, 1865, at Paducah, Ky. Mr. Johnson has served the township of Hammond as clerk and treasurer of School District No. 3 for over a quarter of a century. He has also been an assessor and a member of the town board many years, being chairman of the latter for a long period. He has taken an active part in public affairs and his opinions and advice have always had much weight with his fellow men. He is now enjoying a well-deserved rest, after years of the hardest toil and labor, all of which have been crowned with success.

**Festus N. Plumb** was born in Canada, November 8, 1835, son of Festus and Martha (Huntley) Plumb, natives of the United States, who moved to Canada in early life. The father was a shoemaker by trade, and remained in Canada until his death, August 4, 1844. The mother went to Kenosha county, Wisconsin,

JOHN THAYER

in 1857 and remained there until 1860, when she came to live with her son at Hammond. She passed away November 25, 1868, greatly mourned by all who knew her. Festus N. received a good common school education in Canada. After leaving school he followed farming in his native country until 1856, when he went to Kenosha county, this state, and rented a farm which he conducted until 1860, when he came to Hammond and bought eighty acres of land, which he broke and improved. He erected a fine house and outbuildings and has since continued to occupy the place, bringing the farm to a high state of perfection. He raises the usual crops, grade cattle and Cotswold sheep. His wife is a great fancier of fowls and makes a specialty of white Wyandottes. Mr. Plumb was married first to Elizabeth Trickey, of Canada, whose parents were natives of that country. By this union there were two children. Ella married Alexander Gamble, a printer. Mr. and Mrs. Gamble are now deceased. Charles S. is an engineer, now living at Mukwauago, Wis. He married Minnie Stack. Mr. Plumb was married the second time to Francelia Peck, born in Baraboo, Wis., a daughter of Catherine and Jonathan (Burbank) Peck, natives of New York state, who spent their declining years in Hammond. Two children blessed this union. Caroline M. died January 31, 1880, and Mearle is a farmer in Hammond, married to Ida Tweit, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Plumb are members of the Methodist church, in which both are active workers, Mrs. Plumb, in particuar, being noted for her charity, hospitality and good works. Mr. Plumb has been supervisor of the township of Hammond for several terms and has also served as town assessor and president of the village. He also has an honorable war record. He joined the Union army at Hudson in 1864, serving in Company A, Forty-fourth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, under Colonel Symes and Captain Brown, taking part in the Battle of Nashville, Tenn. He was discharged at the close of the war at Paducah, Ky., July 2, 1865. Mr. Plumb is a good citizen and a true gentleman, who has never descended to any act that was mean or unworthy. He occupies an enviable position in the village of Hammond.

**A. P. Thayer** comes of old New England stock, being descended in an unbroken line from the original Thayer who came to America in 1600. He was born in Thompson, Conn., the 22d day of September, 1837, and is the only son of John and Hanna Elliott (Crosby) Thayer. His father came westward when A. P. was still a young lad and ran a sawmill at Bloomingberg, Ohio, for nine years, when it burned to the ground. In Cambridge City, Ind., in 1848, a still greater misfortune befell the family, for there Mrs. Thayer passed away when his son was at the tender age of ten years. In this town John Thayer taught school and

did clerical work in a drug store. While residing in Seneca county, Ohio, for a period of seven years, he married Sarepta Stickney, of New York state, in 1850. In 1856 he decided to settle in Wisconsin. He came up the river in a boat and landed at Prescott, driving his team to Hudson, visiting a brother, Rev. Charles Thayer. He then came to Hammond, where he took up some school land and started to till the soil. He built the first hotel in that town, and was also the first resident in the village. This he conducted until 1872, when the railroad was built. For twenty-four years he was postmaster at Hammond, being the first to hold that position. He was also notary and justice of the peace for many years. His career came to an end the 30th day of December, 1893. In 1862 A. P. Thayer was married to Katie C. Bowen, of New York state. When the call came for volunteers in 1864 he enlisted in the ranks of Company A, Forty-fourth Wisconsin Infantry, August 25. He served until the close of the war in 1865. Until 1872 he followed farming, after which he established a mercantile business, which he continued until 1902. He has now retired from active life and since the death of his wife in 1903 he has lived alone, doing his own housework and devoting his attention to his splendid yard, which is one beautiful mass of plants, roses, flower beds, etc., surrounding a pretty house. In addition to conducting his business, Mr. Thayer has done considerable surveying, and for several years was assistant postmaster. Mr. Thayer has always voted the Republican ticket. He has two children, Rufus E., at present at Pine City, Minn., and Hanna A., at New Richmond, Wis.

**G. W. Wright** was born in Hammond, Wis., July 19, 1862, a son of James and Elizabeth (Kelley) Wright. The father was born in Ireland and migrated to Canada in the early days, arriving in this locality in the late fifties. He settled on a farm in Hammond township and farmed until 1888, when he retired and came to Hammond village to live. He still makes his residence in this village, being over eighty-four years of age. G. W. was educated in the common schools and followed farming with his father. He also worked in the woods and ran a threshing machine many seasons. For several years he engaged in buying and selling hay and stock. Later he engaged in the hardware trade with a Mr. Gardiner. For over twenty years now he has been connected with J. C. Wachendorf in the hardware business. They handle a big variety of stock and have been very successful. Their goods in all those years have given them a reputation for honest dealing that now brings them trade from many miles around. Mr. Wright was married in January, 1894, to Avis Fithian, daughter of J. B. Fithian. Her parents came to this county in the late fifties, her father being one of the early mer-

chants of this section for many years. He died in 1907 at the age of eighty-seven years. Mr. and Mrs. Wright have no children, but have provided a home for their niece, who has been almost like a daughter to them. Aside from his business, Mr. Wright owns some fine town property and his wife owns sixty acres of land in the township. Mr. Wright served as town treasurer and as a member of the council. The family worships at the Congregational church. Mr. Wright has been successful and is a man of honor and integrity.

## CHAPTER XLIV.

### ST. CROIX COUNTY.

**Hudson City—History of the Early Days—Present Prosperity—Banks and Business Interests—Hopes for the Future—Schools—Water Supply—Park System—Public Library—Board of Trade—Trip Made by the Editor from Stillwater Many Years Ago—Biography—Hudson Township—Kinnickinnic Township—Pleasant Valley Township—Early History Crops and Live Stock—Biography.**

The first settlement in the county was made at the mouth of Willow river by Louis Massey and Peter F. Bouchea, a Frenchman, followed soon after by W. Steets and Joseph Sauperson, known as Joe Lagreu. The four men and their families were the first settlers on the land now occupied as Hudson City. In 1846 Captain J. B. Page, with his family, from the Mormon settlement of Nauvoo, landed on these shores and made a claim. Next came Mr. Purinton, who, with Mr. Page, built a saw mill in 1847 at this point. Thus began the settlement of this wild and romantic country, which was destined to be one of the finest in the St. Croix valley. About that time J. W. Stone and the Nobles brothers came. In the spring of 1848 Philip Aldrich, Ammah Andrews, Moses Perrin, James Sanders and Joseph Mears joined the settlement. The nearest store and postoffice was at Red Rock, on the Mississippi river. The enterprise of the new settlers was not long in overcoming these inconveniences. In 1848 James Stone erected a store building and kept a general stock of goods; also opened a law office in connection. A mail was received once in two weeks from Prairie du Chien, Philip Aldrich acting as postmaster. About the same time Moses Perrin built a hotel. Mrs. Page, in connection with her other duties, practiced medicine, Thompsonian. Substantial dwellings sprang up all over the site of the then wild spot, which had but a short time before been occupied by the wigwam of the Chippewas. The records tell us that Louis Massey entered his claim August 23, 1848, the east half of the southwest quarter of section 24, township 29, range 20. This claim of Louis Massey was first occupied by him in the spring of 1838, and when finally entered for record, in 1848, was the first recorded in the county.

At the same time Peter Bouchea made a claim of the west half of the northwest quarter of section 25, township 29, range 20. September 15, 1848, a portion of Mr. Massey's claim was laid out and platted as Buena Vista. June 3, 1850, Messrs. Gibson, Henning, Bouchea, Stone and Crowns laid out and platted twenty acres adjoining Buena Vista and called it Willow River.

At this time the settlers began to make this an objective point. The same year Dr. Otis Hoyt appeared on the scene with his surgical instruments and medicines, and the settlement was provided with a physician.

The early settlers, not forgetting the advantages which they enjoyed in their far-off homes in the East, began to think of their children and to make arrangements for the improvement of minds. The subject of schools was discussed, and a district called No. 1 was formed September 22, 1849. A meeting was called at the house of M. V. Nobles, and the district organized by the election of the first board of officers, as follows: Moses S. Gibson, director; F. P. Catlin, treasurer; Pascal D. Aldrich, clerk. The first school was taught by E. P. Pratt in what was known as the stone house. S. C. Simonds taught the school in the winter of 1853-54. It was no small matter to maintain a school in those days. Money was scarce and teachers not very plenty who wished to teach at the small wages settlers could pay. At the next annual meeting, September 30, 1850, Ammah Andrews was elected director and J. J. Putman, treasurer; P. D. Aldrich, clerk. The meeting voted $40 tax to pay for a six months' school.

Charlotte Mann took charge of the school for about eight years, and by industry, culture and high character obtained a reputation among the settlers as valuable in her most limited sphere, as that of Horace Mann, the great champion of public education.

In the winter of 1851-52 two separate plats, or villages, of Buena Vista and Willow River, were united and changed in name to Willow River. The next spring the first church was established, which was the First Baptist, under the ministry of Rev. Mr. Catlin.

As the village increased and the town back from the river became more thickly settled, the people became dissatisfied with the name of the village and township. A vote was taken, which resulted in a petition being presented to the board of county commissioners to have the name of the town and village therein contained changed to Hudson, which name was suggested by Alfred Day.

Additions were made to the original plat from time to time until a large city, on paper, stretched from the banks of the lake back up the sides of the bluff and along the more level valley of

the Willow river. In the winter of 1856-57 a charter was procured and the first municipal election was called for the first Monday in April of the same year. The following officers were elected: Mayor, A. D. Gray; aldermen for the First ward, James Bray, J. M. Fulton, M. V. Nobles; aldermen for the Second ward, Alfred Day, R. A. Gridley, C. E. Dexter; aldermen for the Third ward, Charles Thayer, H. P. Lester and N. Perry.

The first meeting of the city council was called at Hendee's hall, May 4, 1877, his honor the mayor presiding; J. B. Gray, clerk pro tem. The election of the minor officers was made by ballot, with the following result: City clerk, O. Bell; city attorney, Cyrus T. Hall; city surveyor, Michael Lynch.

On motion the council fixed the bonds of the city treasurer at $5,000, with three good sureties; the same to be approved by the council. It was voted to appoint a committee to draft by-laws and ordinances. J. B. Gray, Charles Thayer, O. Bell and J. M. Fuller were appointed as said committee. It was voted to appoint Day, Nobles and Lester committee on printing. On motion, Dexter, Gray and Day were appointed to draft laws for the regulation of the council. On motion, it was voted to fix the salary of the city clerk at $250 per year; voted to fix the salary of the city surveyor at $5 per diem for the time actually engaged; voted to fix the salary of the city attorney at $200 per annum; also voted that the city engineer receive $1.50 per day. On motion, it was voted that the following shall be the standing committee of the council: Claims, ways and means, streets, fire department, printing, health, taxes and licenses. The mayor made the following appointments: On claims, Day, Fulton and Perry; ways and means, Gridley, Gray and Lester; health, Thayer; fire department, Nobles; taxes, Gray, Dexter and Lester; on printing, Day, Nobles and Lester; on licenses, Fulton, Gridley and Perry. On motion, a committee was appointed to procure rooms for the meeting of the council, and Nobles, Gridley and Thayer were appointed said committee. The subject of establishing grades was discussed and referred to committee on streets. On motion, it was voted to hold the council meetings at city hall the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p. m. At a meeting of the council held May 13, 1857, it was voted to change the following rates for licenses: For hotelkeeper to sell intoxicating liquors, $50; bowling alleys, with saloon, $25 in addition to the other license charged; wholesale dealers, $200; billiard saloons, $25 for each table aside from any other license charged. The first license issued by the city was to John Cyphers, said Cyphers to receive license on presentation of a receipt signed by the treasurer for $40 for wholesale, $100 for saloon and $24 for two billiard tables. At its organization the city was divided into three wards, as fol-

lows: All that portion of the city lying south of a line drawn through the center of Walnut street from the west to the east boundary of said city shall constitute the First ward; all that portion of said city being north of said line and south of a line drawn through the center of Division street from the eastern to the western boundary of said city shall constitute the Second ward, and all that portion of said city lying north of the Second ward shall constitute the Third ward.

From the files of the "Star and Times" of May 24, 1866, we clip the following description of the great fire that occurred May 19, 1866:

"Terrible conflagration—The city in ruins—Sixty-four business houses in ruins and twenty-five families homeless—Only one store left standing—Total loss, $32,500; insurance, $7,500. The fire broke out at 1:30 p. m. in the rear of H. A. Taylor & Co.'s building, used for furniture rooms and printing offices. No fire had ever been used in the shed. It was supposed to have originated by sparks from the saloon or the pipe of a drunken man found lying where the fire originated and barely saved from burning with the building. The rapidity with which the flames spread was almost impossible to believe. Not even the books and personal effects from the 'Star and Times' office were saved. Merchants in the adjoining stores had barely time to secure their valuable papers. The wind blew a gale. The flames seemed to break in every direction. The City hotel was enveloped in flames before the alarm was hardly given. The family and guests escaped with only what they had on. In an hour the scene was terrific. The billows of flames and the blinding smoke with the explosion of gunpowder; the approaching darkness, which caused uncertainty, terror and despair; the blackened ruins of what a few moments before were marts of merchandise and elegant homes; the crowds of toiling, anxious men and terror stricken women—all formed a scene alike terrible and grand."

"In about two hours the fire fiend had done its work. What at noon was the mart of a thriving city at sundown was a blackened ruin, with only one standing store. The proceeds of years of toil, the abundance which brought affluence and elegance, the little that had been saved from the proceeds of toil, all perished and gone. It is due to the business men to say, no men ever bore losses with more fortitude or set to work with more cheerfulness and energy to retrieve their losses. Most were able to go on without any very serious embarrassment. The fire had not ceased before the work of rebuilding was planned, and the city rose from the ashes with finer proportions than before."

The hook and ladder company was first organized in 1860, with Joseph H. Harrington, foreman; John Bartlett, assistant

foreman, and A. Freer, secretary. There were thirty members at organization. In 1865 the company established a free library for the use of its members. The company was well equipped as now, and did efficient work at the great fire.

The city hardly recovered from the first great conflagration when it was once again visited by the fire fiend, destroying a large part of the business portion. This time the fire broke out in the Chapin Hall hotel, standing on the present site of the Chapin Hall house, at 12 o'clock noon. Every effort was made by the fire company and citizens to keep the fire from spreading, but to no avail. It seemed as though the city must be entirely destroyed again. It was found impossible without assistance from abroad to check its mad career. It was also impossible to get assistance in time to do much good. When the fire was at last subdued it was found that about thirty different firms had lost more or less. The aggregate loss was estimated at $100,000, with only $15,000 insurance. Misfortune never comes single-handed. So with our devoted city. The smoke of this great conflagration had hardly subsided when the alarm was once more sounded. This time the seat of the fire was in the elevator and warehouse of Coon and Pratt, with their contents. The elevator contained about 30,000 bushels of wheat. The warehouse of C. D. Powers was also destroyed. The total amount of the loss, distributed among several parties, was $60,000, with $16,355 insurance.

The city authorities began at this time to see the necessity of supplying some means of protection against the devouring elements. In September of the same year the city purchased a better engine, which was placed in the hands of the old hook and ladder company. In March the old company was disbanded and a new company organization effected under the title of the Hudson City Fire Company, with the following officers: M. Whitten, chief engineer; G. Anderson, first assistant; J. B. Martin, second assistant; M. D. Aldrich, secretary; D. W. Coon, treasurer; George W. Willis, in charge of engine.

The first railroad was built from St. Paul via Stillwater in 1871, and was called the West Wisconsin railroad, and today the city is connected with all parts of the wide world. The Omaha, or rather the Northwestern, passes through the northern part of the city.

## MODERN HUDSON.

Hudson is one of the thriving cities of the St. Croix valley, next in importance to Stillwater. In the last decade it has increased its population fifty per cent and the citizens look to a still greater increase in the next ten years. The business men are progressive and up to date and are determined that every-

thing possible shall be done for the betterment of their beautiful city. The city is built on a sightly plateau and table lands, surrounded by bluffs, giving it a splendid location both for business purposes and scenic beauty. It is only nineteen miles from St. Paul and 152 from Superior, controls the outlet of the Willow river and occupies an advantageous situation on the St. Croix lake. In railroads it is on the main line of the Chicago & Northwestern, the River Falls and Ellsworth, the Stillwater and Hudson, also the Minneapolis-Superior-St. Paul division of the Omaha line. This gives the city adequate transportation facilities for freight and passengers and causes the station to become a busy place from which passengers depart in all directions. The city is particularly healthful, as there are no swampy or marsh land near the city and malaria and typhoid are almost unknown.

The city boasts of a perfectly equipped fire department, and the sanitary conditions being perfect the place certainly presents unusual attractions to those seeking a location. Three newspapers—the "Star-Times," the "St. Croix Observer" and the "True Republican"—supply the wants of the inhabitants of this city in this line. The "Star-Times" is the oldest paper in the city, the "Star" having been established in May, 1854, and the "Chronicle," which became the "Times," was founded in 1860. In 1864 the two papers were consolidated under the name of "Star and Times," which, in 1894, was changed to "Star-Times." The churches are: St. Patrick's, Presbyterian, Methodist, Lutheran (Ebenezer), Lutheran (Bethel), Episcopal, Baptist, German Lutheran, Unitarian and Swedish Lutheran. Hudson's largest industry is the great manufacturing plant known as the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railroad. It covers a large area, employs more men, consumes more material, has a larger output and carries a larger payroll than any other industry in the city. There are two dry goods stores, seven groceries, two drug stores, two book stores, three hardware establishments, two shoe stores, three millinery shops, two furniture stores, four hotels, two restaurants, two bakeries, one upholstering establishment, three meat markets, three lumber companies, two tailor shops, four printing offices, four barber shops, two feed stores, two harness shops, one confectionery, two livery barns, three clothing stores, two blacksmith shops, one photograph establishment, a military band, two orchestras, and a public library. In addition the city has a waterworks company, an electric light plant, telegraph and telephone plants, and is otherwise thoroughly equipped with all the modern conveniences, improvements and advantages which so materially assist in the growth and development of a city. The future of Hudson is assured.

The Board of Trade is a progressive organization that has for

its purpose the expansion of every interest that will make this city a larger and better Hudson. The various committees are divided under the following heads: Progressive league, lights and lighting, bridges and highways, beautifying the city, manufacturing interests, public halls and fire protection. The men who have been assigned to these committees are all by training and occupation equipped for the work assigned and the work already accomplished has been of great benefit to the city. Its influence has been considerable in the matter of extending the cement walks, macadamizing the public streets and securing new manufacturing plants. The officers of the Board of Trade are: F. J. Carr, president; W. J. Barter, vice president; B. C. Bunker, second vice president; Spencer Haven, secretary, and C. J. Birkhose, treasurer, with the following board of directors: Joseph Yoerg, F. O. Crary, Robert Friend, W. H. Phipps and H. L. North.

This city's public school system will compare with any in cities of similar size in the state as to the courses of study taught, the equipment and buildings. The high school, a fine, showy building, was erected in 1886, built of red pressed brick with stone trimmings, electric lighted and heated by hot air, built in the center of a square and cost $40,000. The high school enrolment is 193, who receive a full four years' course, with special studies in music and art. All graduates of the high school are admitted to normals and universities without examination, placing the Hudson school system on a very high footing. In addition to the high school there are four ward school buildings, costing $20,000. The total enrolment for this school year is 730. An eight years' course is taught in the grades, presided over by thirteen teachers, all normal graduates, while the seven high school teachers are graduates of universities and colleges.

The greatest gift that can be vouchsafed to mankind is the purity and abundance of its water supply. In this respect Hudson is abundantly blessed, having the purest of artesian spring water, which from chemical test has been found absolutely free from organic matter, which may account for the perfect freedom of its citizens from typhoid fever, kidney, bladder and diseases of the digestive organs. The city water supply is derived from two wells 350 and 600 feet in depth below the pumping station. The water is pumped into a reservoir holding 85,000 gallons, situated on a bluff having an elevation of 300 feet, from whence it is distributed through water mains covering the whole residence and business district, with fifty-six hydrants for fire protection. This water is pumped into a standpipe by two triplex pumps having forty-two revolutions per minute, or a pumping capacity of 546 gallons a minute. In case of fire the water can be pumped direct

into the mains from the pumping station, which gives ample safeguards in emergency cases. There are few cities that are so well taken care of as to the purity and supply of their water, and what is more, that has so little expense attached to operating the plant. The operating of the water system is sublet at a cost of $2,400 a year, while the city sells to the Omaha shops and locomotives their water supply for $1,600 a year, leaving a balance of only $800 a year for operating expenses. For this $800 the city has water free for fire and other purposes and the income for all water consumed for domestic and manufacturing purposes.

Hudson's free public library is one of the very handsome public library buildings in the state, built of cream pressed brick with granite trimmings, size 75 by 100 feet, steam heated and electric lighted, while the interior finish is all in quarter-sawed oak. The building occupies a site of a quarter of a block, and was built at a cost of $25,000. The library contains 4,000 volumes and is one of the best selected, as it covers all the best works. One of the attractive features of the Hudson free public library is its central location, making it accessible to the business as well as the residence districts. In addition to the library proper there is an auditorium in the basement, where literary and lecture courses are given, adding much to the utility of the building.

No city at the present time can hope to have a place in the progressive class unless it has a park system. In this respect Hudson had made ample provision, which, combined with nature's playgrounds that are strewn along the shore line of the beautiful St. Croix and the entrancing Willow rivers, with its lofty imperial bluffs, make this city indeed the gem of the St. Croix in scenic beauty. It has ever been the ambition of its leading citizens to supplement what nature has done by acquiring a park system, which is now well under way. Hudson's foremost city playground is Prospect park, that contains some twenty-seven acres, situated on the east bluff, overlooking the dells, shady nooks with their draperies of ferns and vines along the St. Croix and Willow rivers. This park has never been defiled by man and has retained all of its natural grandeur, and all that is being done to improve it is to make driveways and walks and the placing of rustic seats amid its spreading shade trees of birch, oak and elm. Then there is River Front park, another beauty spot on the west side of Lake St. Croix that has some two and a half acres, with a splendid lake shore line, while Athletic park is in the northern part of the city, where all athletic games are played, and that has an amphitheater with a seating capacity of 400.

Hudson makes a most attractive county seat, as reflected in

her new $50,000 court house, built of Portage red stone and pressed brick, making a very showy and yet substantial piece of architecture. The county jail and sheriff's residence is a two-story brick with stone trimmings, built at a cost of $10,000. Both buildings are steam heated and electric lighted, and are fitted up in the best of taste for the conduct of the county business.

Hudson's future prosperity is largely based upon her natural water power, derived from damming the Willow river, transmitting 425 electric horsepower, only partly used for city and private lighting, and electric waterpower for operating the factories located here. The rate charged per kilowatt is so cheap that it has put out of commission gasoline and steam motor power. There are two developed waterpowers, assuring a constant and steady, never-ceasing flow of water for generating electrical energy. This means that Hudson has much to offer industries that seek a new location where the cheapness of electrical power is an inducement. Factories that desire to locate just outside of the great industrial centers, where building sites are low, the wage scale not so high, with rents and living expenses a third less. In this respect Hudson has much to offer.

In company with the citizens of the other cities of the St. Croix valley and the upper Mississippi the people of Hudson are placing great hopes in the new waterway which it is proposed to cut, uniting the Great Lakes with the headwaters of the St. Croix river. Hudson possesses a deep harbor and in future days will doubtless furnish anchorage for the great ships that will sail the Great Lakes and down to the Gulf.

The editor of this work recalls the time when the business progress of Hudson was at a low ebb and when the people of Stillwater spoke rather lightly of Hudson and its claims to consideration, but that is all over now. For in these later years another set of men and new forces have wrought a marked and surprising change in the conditions which make for progress, and today Hudson ranks among the most enterprising and progressive cities of the west. There are stir and movement and hustle among the business men of the place that were absent in the years agone, and the people claim their city is a place of beauty and a joy forever. That may sound somewhat florid and overdrawn, but a visit to the place will disclose to the visitor the fact that the residential portions of the city, particularly Third and Fourth streets, are most delightful. These broad thoroughfares are at an elevation from the business section, running parallel with the lake and lined with fine residences and sheltered from the sun by rows of sturdy trees. During the last two or three years there has been much improvement in the appearance of most of the streets, due chiefly to the introduction of stone sidewalks, which

are becoming important features in the growth of a city. And besides this, there are many beauty spots in the outlying sections—Willow River Falls, six or seven miles distant, being first in the list and well worth the journey thither. The writer of these lines had the pleasure of visiting this charming spot a few years ago, and on his return to his home in Stillwater this is what he wrote: "The falls, from the route taken by us, are not approachable with teams. So we anchored the horses in a grove where the grass, burned away in numerous patches and newspapers idly flapping in the summer breeze, gave indications of recent picnics, and started down the narrow defile, a winding way, worn along the brow of the steep banks by the tread of many feet. The trail did not probably resemble the locality described by the Irish orator, but nevertheless reminded me of his words when he spoke of wandering 'down the untrodden paths of time, where we see the footsteps of an invisible hand.' Clambering down the rugged way, skirting projecting rocks, grasping overhead boughs to stay our progress down a sharp descent, scrambling and sliding, we emerged at length in full view of the great falls, where a vast volume of water comes rushing and roaring and tumbling over the rocks. It is a grand sight, and to be appreciated should be seen, as no pictured representation can do justice to the view. A party of picnickers were lounging about on the mossy rocks, 'breaking the long summer day with banquet in the quiet woods.' Liberty Hill is another spot of which the people often speak, not boastfully, as if nobody else had any Liberty Hill, but as one of the lofty and lasting features which grace their immediate vicinity. So, availing myself of the opportunity offered by a friend, I journeyed thither. The route is romantic and circuitous, but as you reach the height a wonderful view lies outspread before the vision. I inquired of our companion why it was called Liberty Hill, but he shook his head, and being left to my imaginings, I decided that it was so called because some youthful statesman, in a remote period of the world's history, had, like Freedom from her mountain height, unfurled his standard to the air, and filled with thoughts that breathe and words that burn had hurled at his awe-stricken audience the thrilling words of Patrick Henry: 'Some prefer the genial spring, while others would have it summer through all the rolling year, and many there be who claim the pleasures of winter are to be chosen rather than great riches, but as for me, give me Liberty (Hill) or give me death.'

"They told me there was an immense reservoir up there containing a vast quantity of water, and I expected to see a structure of some kind, but save and except the trampled grass and a group of laughing girls oscillating slowly to and fro in a pon-

derous swing, and a pole which acts as a sort of indicator and gives the alarm when the water reaches a certain point, nothing was visible. The reservoir itself is like the sweet hope mentioned by the bard which lies deeply buried from human eyes. The people are supplied with excellent water from this vast reservoir, which is the property of the city."

The most remarkable assemblage of Hudson citizens ever gathered in that city was at the home of John E. Bartlett in Hudson, Wis., on Wednesday, February 26, 1908, when twenty-four other pioneers arrived to celebrate his seventy-seventh birthday anniversary. Of the twenty-five men present everyone has lived there for fifty years or more, and their combined age is 1,857 years, with an average of seventy-four years. These men have seen Hudson grow from nothing to its present high plane, and have been a great factor in its development. Following is a list of those present and their ages: A. G. Thompson, 87; M. L. Palmer, 85; E. J. Mattson, 84; A. J. Mattson, 81; Robert McDairmid, 81; A. D. Richardson, 78; A. Balsom, 78; John E. Bartlett, 77; O. Holmes, 77; J. Hyslop, 76; Joe Bensch, 76; Joe Kelly, 74; Jake Daily, 74; John Hodgins, 74; J. H. White, 75; Samuel Coit, 73; Ed Daily, 72; L. Nash, 71; P. Kircher, 70; George Martin, 69; Robert Dinsmore, 69; Fred Scott, 68; Charles Donohue, 64; Alex. Ross, 63; L. G. Green, 62.

There is no better index to the wealth and prosperity of a community than the condition of its banks. The banks of Hudson have a combined capital, surplus and profits of $170,000, with total deposits of $800,000, which, when figured out, gives a per capita of $181 for every man, woman and child of Hudson's population. This is an unusually good showing and one that any banking center with the same population might well be proud of.

**The Bank of Hudson** was organized in December, 1896, with a capital stock of $25,000. The incorporators were H. L. North, F. J. Carr and N. B. Bailey. H. L. North was elected president; F. J. Carr, vice president, and N. B. Bailey, cashier. In 1899 N. B. Bailey resigned the cashiership, removing to Baldwin, Wis. George P. De Long was then elected vice president and F. J. Carr, cashier. In 1903 W. J. Barter was elected second vice president and B. C. Bunker, assistant cashier. A surplus fund of $15,000 has been accumulated by the institution in addition to the payment of regular dividends. The present officers are: H. L. North, president; George P. De Long, vice president; W. J. Barter, vice president; F. J. Carr, cashier; B. C. Bunker, assistant cashier. The present paid in capital and surplus is $40,000. The following named gentlemen constitute the board of directors: H. L. North, F. J. Carr, George P. De Long, E. E. Gatchell, W. J. Barter.

**The People's State Bank** was organized November 17, 1905, with a capital of $50,000. It is one of the most modern and up-to-date banks in this locality, and is equipped in every detail to do a general banking business, granting loans on real estate, collaterals and individual names on reasonable terms, also handling fire, life, tornado, hail and accident insurance and doing such other business as is usually transacted in an institution of this kind. The officers are: President, G. W. Bell; first vice president, N. B. Bailey; second vice president, Spencer Haven; cashier, H. G. Armstrong; assistant cashier, Alexandra Sangestord.

**The Wisconsin Mortgage, Loan and Investment Company,** of Hudson, is a strong institution and does a large business. They have on hand for sale at all times first mortgages on real estate on which they collect and remit at par the interest and principal when due, looking after taxes and relieving the holder from all trouble incident thereto. The men engaged in this institution are old settlers in this county and have a wide acquaintance with business conditions in this locality. One of the features of the building which houses this company and the People's State bank is the burglar proof vault, lined with railroad steel rails, having also a second lining of one-half inch chrome steel with five inches of steel doors. The safety deposit boxes are of different sizes and the patrons of the boxes have every accommodation, including the use of private rooms for the transacting of private business. The company is incorporated under the laws of Wisconsin. The officers are: President, Nelson B. Bailey; first vice president, Frank E. Settergren; second vice president, Frank B. Brown; secretary and treasurer, Charles N. Gorham. The directors are the above named gentlemen with G. W. Bell, Spencer Haven and B. E. Grinnell.

**The First National Bank** of Hudson was organized June 6, 1863, and was among the earliest institutions authorized to transact business under the national banking act. It was ninety-fifth in the order of organization, and at this time is the twenty-third in order of the banks now surviving and the oldest national bank in the state. The incorporators were John Comstock, Alfred Goss, A. J. Goss, A. E. Jefferson, L. P. Wetherby and W. H. Crowe. John Comstock was its first president and A. J. Goss its first cashier. Both these officials were able business men and thoroughly familiar with the science of banking and under their management the institution won the confidence of the community. In 1870 A. E. Jefferson succeeded Mr. Goss as cashier, which position he occupied until the death of Mr. Comstock, whom he then succeeded as president, James A. Andrews being chosen cashier. In 1890 John A. Humbird became president and D. C. Fulton, cashier. Mr. Fulton succeeded Mr. Humbird as presi-

dent in 1897. In 1903 Joseph Yoerg became cashier, a position which he still continues to fill. On the death of Mr. Fulton in 1899, A. E. Jefferson was again elected president and continued in that capacity until January, 1907, when, owing to ill health, he retired from active business, and William H. Phipps was chosen to succeed him. The bank has passed through several panics, but owing to the sound and conservative policy pursued during all these years it has retained in highest degree the confidence of the whole community, and today occupies a position in banking circles of the northwest second to none. The aim of its officers always has been to build up a strong, trustworthy and reliable institution, and as evidence of their success the bank ranks second in financial strength in proportion of surplus and undivided profits to its capital in the state of Wisconsin. The present officers of the bank are: William H. Phipps, president; Otto W. Arnquist, vice president; Joseph Yoerg, cashier; John Dorwin, assistant cashier, and Herbert J. Penfield, teller. The board of directors is composed of William H. Phipps, Otto W. Arnquist, E. W. Helms, A. E. Jefferson, C. Burkhardt, Harry K. Huntoon and Joseph Yoerg. All are capable business men and stand high in the social and financial circles of the surrounding country.

**Albert Anderson** was born in Polk county, on a farm in Eureka township, this state, March 28, 1876, son of Carl and Anna Marie Anderson. His parents were born in Sweden and immigrated to the United States, locating at St. Croix Falls, Polk county, in 1869. In 1871 his father took up a homestead, which he improved and which he now owns and occupies. The mother died in 1904 at the age of sixty-nine years. Of her ten children six are now living. The early life of Albert Anderson was spent on a farm. In the summer he helped in the fields and in the winter attended the district schools. By close application to his work he so far surpassed the other scholars that he was chosen as teacher in the public school. At the age of twenty, seeing the need of a better education, he entered the Macalister college, where he stayed for two years, after which he went to Washington, D. C., and accepted a position with the government, arranging his work so that he could still pursue a course of study. During the two years spent at this point he attended the Columbia university, after which he went to Madison, Wis., where he was employed in the office of the secretary of state. While at Madison he decided to turn his attention to the law, and after a three years' course at the law school at the State university he graduated in 1905. In the spring of that same year Mr. Anderson came to Hudson and formed a partnership with John L. Gleason.

In December, 1906, he bought out the business and now has one of the best appointed law offices in the city. In September, 1907, Mr. Anderson formed a partnership with N. O. Varnum, and is now practicing under the firm name of Varnum and Anderson. Mr. Anderson is a genial and whole-hearted man and always inspires that feeling of confidence in the hearts of all who deal with him, which is so necessary to success in the law business. He is a young man, and is self-made, having that push and energy that is bound to bring him even more abundant success in the future.

**Edward C. Anderson,** treasurer of the county of St. Croix, is a native of Hammond, this county, born July 24, 1862, son of Frank and Sarah (Ayers) Anderson, both born in England. They came to St. Croix county in the early sixties and engaged in farming. The father died in 1878 at the age of fifty-six and his wife passed to the great beyond in 1905, having exceeded by three years the allotted three score years and ten. In the family were six children, five of whom are still living. Frank lives on the homestead in Hammond township; Alice, the wife of T. J. Walford, also lives in Hammond; Edward C. was the third in the family; Emma is deceased; Sarah is the wife of M. N. O'Brien of New Richmond, this county, and Hannah M. still continues to live in Hammond. Edward C. was educated in the public schools of the town of Hammond and then entered business college. After that he engaged in farming with his brother Frank on the old homestead, consisting of 440 acres, until 1896, when he removed to a farm of his own consisting of eighty acres in the same township, where he conducted farming operations with great success, raising a general crop. He continued on this farm, which he still owns, until 1900, then locating in the village of Hammond, engaging in the farm implement and harness business until 1907, when he was elected to his present office of county treasurer on the republican ticket by a large majority. He received his second nomination without opposition September 1, 1908, and was elected. He has always taken an active interest in public affairs, especially in politics, and is known among his associates as a hard and earnest worker, thoroughly believing in the merits of his party and yet never descending to anything that is not honest and upright in his labors for the party. He believes in the utmost fairness to all and practices this belief in all his dealings. He has been secretary of the county committee, chairman, and delegate to important conventions for many years, and president and supervisor of the village of Hammond. He is a popular member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. Anderson was married July 15, 1896, to Catherine S. O'Brien, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward O'Brien, of Warren township,

this county. They have two children, Joseph E., born June 7, 1900, and an infant daughter, born August 28, 1908.

**James Amasa Andrews** comes of old Revolutionary stock, his mother's family being among the patriots who lived in Colonial days. His father, Amasa Andrews, was born in Herkimer county, New York, July 9, 1801, and came to Hudson, Wis., in the fall of 1853, following his twin brother, Ammah, who came here from Stillwater, Minn., in the spring of 1848. Amasa was married December 31, 1831, to Mary Comstock, born in Owasco, Cayuga county, New York, February 27, 1811, daughter of Elkariah Comstock, the first Protestant clergyman sent into the interior of the state of Michigan. The mother of Mary (Comstock) Andrews was a niece of General Nathaniel Greene, one of the officers of the Revolution, and the grandmother was Abigail Dodge, a relative of General Dodge, also of Revolutionary distinction. Amasa Andrews was a contractor and builder, and many of the houses still standing in and about Hudson testify to the enduring quality of his creations. He was the father of seven children, six of whom grew to maturity: Edward C. died in the Black Hills in 1902; Sarah E. and Mrs. Mary A. Chambers died in May, 1898; Mrs. Cecelia Hughes lives in Anoka, Minn.; James A., the subject of this sketch, was born in Commerce, Mich., April 23, 1845; Charles A. died in 1872. The father, Amasa Andrews, died August 10, 1880, and the mother passed away December 23, 1882.

James A. Andrews received his education in the common schools of Hudson. In 1862 he was given a position as school teacher in the township of Warren, this state. The following year he taught in St. Joseph township. In August, 1864, he enlisted in Company A, Forty-fourth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and went immediately to Nashville, where the regiment was placed under General Thomas, doing guard duty between Nashville and Chattanooga. Just before the battle of Nashville he was appointed hospital steward for the regiment, which position he held until the quota for the regiment was filled. In February, 1865, he was appointed regimental clerk, serving in this office with much credit until mustered out, July 2, 1865. Upon returning to Hudson he entered the employ of the First National bank, commencing as a bookkeeper. In 1870 Mr. Andrews joined a surveying party on the Northern Pacific railroad line, remaining for fifteen months and then returning to his duties at the bank. His promotion from his original position was rapid, and after passing through the various positions of trust and honor in the institution he was serving as cashier when, in August, 1890, he resigned, after twenty-two years of faithful service. June 4, 1877, Mr. Andrews married Ellen Miriam Gibson, born in Binghamton, N. Y., October 7, 1849, daughter of Marcus and Catherine

(Butterfield) Gibson. The father was born in Alexandria, N. Y., December 26, 1816, and the mother was born in Wolcott, N. Y., June 8, 1819. They were married in September, 1847, and had three children: Mrs. James A. Andrews, Elbridge Dayton, deceased, and Frederick Morris, of Minneapolis, Minn. The father died March 24, 1860, and the mother passed away November 25, 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Andrews have two children: Ruth Catharine, born December 27, 1878, and Charles Gibson, born March 29, 1885. Mr. Andrews has always been interested in public affairs and has occupied a number of important public positions. Since 1870 he has been city surveyor almost continuously. For many years he was secretary and treasurer of the Willow River Cemetery association, and at the present time he is secretary of the Soldiers' Relief Fund, a member of the park board, a director of the Hudson Carnegie library, and a member of the Edward A. Clapp post, G. A. R. The family are members of the First Baptist church, of Hudson.

**Otto W. Arnquist** was born in Wermland, Sweden, April 1, 1858, and came to America with his parents in 1868, settling in the town of Star Prairie, Wis. He was educated in the public schools of Star Prairie and New Richmond, and at the normal school at River Falls. His law education was received with the Hon. H. L. Humphrey, at Hudson, with whom he later formed a partnership for the practice of law under the firm name of Humphrey and Arnquist. In May, 1884, he was admitted to the bar, and in November of the same year he was elected clerk of the circuit court. To this office he was re-elected in 1886 and 1888. For one year he served as city attorney of Hudson and was on the board of education seven years, a larger part of the time as president of the board. He was elected county judge of St. Croix county in 1897 and returned to that office without opposition in 1901 and 1905, discharging well the duties of this office. He is recognized as a man of more than ordinary strength of intellect. A prominent attorney who has known Judge Arnquist for many years says: "He is a well educated lawyer and one in whom an appreciation of justice and equity is unusually developed. He is a great reader and has always taken an appreciative interest in all public questions. It is seldom that one finds these characteristics more fully developed or more harmoniously blended than they are in the case of Judge Arnquist." In addition to his legal achievements he has served for many years on the board of directors of the First National bank, of Hudson, and is now vice president of that institution. March 9, 1886, he married Caroline Jacobson, who passed away January 29, 1889. July 11, 1893, he married Hannah T. Michalson, by whom he had eight children, four of whom are living, viz.: Otto W., Anna T.,

Katherine H. and Ruth E. Mr. Arnquist is a republican in politics. Fraternally he is a Mason, a member of St. Croix lodge, No. 56; St. Croix chapter, No. 44, and St. Croix commandery, No. 14.

**Alfred G. Armstrong,** cashier of the People's National bank, is the son of Thomas S. and Rebecca (Boys) Armstrong. He was born in Guelph, Ontario, November 12, 1860. His father was born May 18, 1817, in Michigan, and the mother May 25, 1832, in Canada. They were married in Guelph township, Ontario, in 1857. Alfred G. is the third of a family of sixteen children, all of whom still survive. John R., of Spring Valley, is the only other one in the United States.

Alfred attended the public schools in his native town and worked on his father's farm until he attained his majority. In 1887 he settled at River Falls, Wis., engaging in the milling and elevator business. In 1893 he entered the bank at Ellsworth, Wis., as bookkeeper, and in 1894 purchased an interest and was elected as one of the directors. Four years later he was one of the incorporators of the Foss-Armstrong Hardware company, of Ellsworth, Wis., and has served as vice president ever since. In 1903 they opened a branch store in Hudson, Wis. In 1901 he moved to the Pacific coast, where he engaged in the mercantile business for two years. He returned to Hudson in 1903 and continued in the hardware business as manager until 1905, when he with others incorporated the People's State bank, of Hudson, of which institution he was elected cashier. He still retains his interest in the Ellsworth bank and in the hardware company. Mr. Armstrong was united in marriage, October 14, 1896, with Caroline E. Foss, a daughter of Samuel and Mary E. (Johnson) Foss, of South Dakota. They have two children, Aloa C. and Audrey F. Mr. Armstrong is one of the leading citizens of Hudson, energetic and enterprising, honest and upright in all his dealings.

**Nelson B. Bailey** is a native of St. Albans, Vt., born January 11, 1865, a son of Dana Reed Bailey, of whom a sketch is found in this history. He received his early education in the public schools and then attended the Shattuck Military academy at Faribault, Minn. After finishing school he entered the employ of Judd and Allyn at Baldwin, Wis., as bookkeeper. Here he remained until 1884, in the fall of which year he went to Sioux Falls, S. D., with the Minnehaha National bank. In 1892 he returned to Wisconsin and became cashier of the Farmers' and Merchants' State bank, at River Falls, where he remained for five years. From 1897 to 1899 he was with the Bank of Hudson. In 1899 Mr. Bailey was appointed cashier of the Bank of Baldwin, Wis., and in 1905 was elected president of the same institution. In November, 1905, he became associated with the People's State bank, of Hudson,

A. C. Baker

Wis., as vice president. He now holds the position of president of the Bank of Baldwin, and is vice president of the People's State bank, of Hudson. He is also president of the Mortgage and Loan Trust company, of Hudson. October 19, 1898, Mr. Bailey was united in marriage with Miss Elva Barber, who was born in Lancaster, Wis. By this union there are three children: George R., born September 15, 1899; Dana H., born February 6, 1903, and Charles N., born April 9, 1906. Fraternally Mr. Bailey has passed thirty-two degrees in Masonry and is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

**Henry C. Baker** was born in Stafford, Genessee county, New York, November 16, 1831. He came from an old New England family, whose forefathers on both sides of the house fought in the Revolutionary war, and he is a direct descendant of the famous Captain Remember Baker, prominent among the early settlers of Vermont, who was shot on Lake Champlain in the beginning of the struggle for freedom in 1776. At the time of his birth Mr. Baker's parents, Luther A. and Mercy (Stannard) Baker, were in humble circumstances. They were typical specimens of that early race of sturdy and intelligent men and women, who, starting from the land of the Pilgrims and Puritans, have gradually marched westward, bringing with them the moral, intellectual and physical stamina derived from the hardy emigrants, who in the seventeenth century dared the perils of the sea and encountered the hardships and privations of life in a new and unexplored country to secure to themselves and their children the inestimable privileges of freedom of conscience.

The early life of our subject was spent upon his father's farm, which, like other boys in those days, he assisted in cultivating. After the age of twelve he did a man's work, his only opportunity for educational advancement being that afforded at the short winter term of the district school. This discipline, however, was supplemented by those acquirements which came to him through his strong desire for more liberal attainments. Possessed of a retentive memory, he devoted his attention at otherwise unoccupied moments to reading such books of history, biography, travels and general literature as in those early days and in his secluded country home he could obtain, thus rounding out a broad general information. The necessities of this comparative frontier civilization, however, proved the most potent factor in the formation of his character. As is the case of the majority of the successful men of the country, it was the struggle under adverse circumstances and the improvement of opportunities that gave him the independence and self-confidence which have marked him among the prominent men of his time and locality. At the age of eighteen (1849) he attended for one year the Genessee and

Wyoming seminary in his native county, from which he entered the New York Normal college at Albany, where he graduated in 1854, and immediately returned to a professorship in the Genessee and Wyoming seminary, teaching mathematics and the natural sciences. While here he commenced the study of law, and faithfully and critically read Blackstone, Kent and Chitty during spare hours.

In 1857 our subject entered the law office of Hon. Moses Taggart, at one time judge of the New York court of appeals, at Batavia, the county seat of his native county. From there he returned to Albany with the intention of pursuing his studies in the law school of that city. Law schools in those days were radically different from those of the present time, and Mr. Baker very soon concluded that he could prosecute his studies much more successfully by engaging in the actual work of the practice of the law in a good law office. He therefore entered the office of Willet and Hawley, in Albany, and in 1858 was admitted to the bar in that city. He at once returned to his native county and opened an office and commenced the practice of his profession at Batavia. In the spring of 1859, soon after the St. Croix and Lake Superior railroad was projected, Mr. Baker, anticipating rapid advancement in northern Wisconsin, sought this then new and undeveloped portion of the state as his home. It was a region rich in resources, affording boundless chances for the vigorous and sturdy character that had been formed in the state of his birth, a region of which everything was yet to be developed—mines to be opened, farms to be improved, vast forests of valuable timber to be transported to market, railroads to be built, wealth to be created. An inviting field this for a young man of nerve and force. Soon after Mr. Baker settled at Hudson he became attorney for the St. Croix and Lake Superior Railroad company. It held a charter for the construction of a road from St. Croix lake to the head of Lake Superior and to Bayfield, and one of the most valuable grants of land ever conferred by congress upon a state for internal improvements. The company had just entered upon the work of constructing its road when the war of the Rebellion broke out and prevented the further prosecution of the enterprise, which was for the time being abandoned for want of capital. At the close of the war, when the finances of the country again assumed their normal condition, Mr. Baker was most untiring and persistent in his efforts to revive this dormant enterprise and to direct the attention of capitalists to this magnificent opportunity for profitable investment. In the year 1868 he so far succeeded that he found men of abundant capital who would take the charter and build the road but for the fact that, by the terms of the grant of the lands by congress, the title

to the unearned portions of the lands would revert to the general government unless the road was completed May 5, 1869. The time was so short that capitalists could not be induced to undertake the work.

Mr. Baker, however, insisted that, notwithstanding the provision of forfeiture in the act granting the lands in case the road was not completed by the day specified, the state would still retain the title and could confer the grant upon any company that would build the road, unless this right was determined by act of congress, or by decrees of court, of which there was not the remotest probability, in case the state was in good faith engaged in the execution of the trust.

Unfortunately, however, the prevailing opinion at that time was adverse to this view, the general opinion being that upon the date specified the title of the state would be divested and its powers to devote the lands to the purpose for which they were granted would cease. In the meantime the valuable pine forests upon the grant were being despoiled by trespassers, the state authorities declining to protect the lands, as they were soon to revert to the United States, and the officers of the general government refusing to interfere for the reason that they were not yet restored to the public domain. In the winter of 1868-69 Mr. Baker went to Madison, and by much effort and perseverance induced the legislature to pass a law authorizing the governor to appoint an agent to protect these valuable pine lands. While the legislature yielded to his solicitation and passed the law, it was universally regarded as useless legislation, in view of the fact that, upon the opening of spring, the state would no longer have any land grant to protect. The governor, however, appointed as such agent General Samuel Harriman. The lumbermen laughed at the general, defied his authority and continued boldly and openly the work of spoliation. In the meantime Mr. Baker was laying his plans to seize the logs cut upon the grant when they came down the river, thereby forcing the lumbermen to litigate their title, which would, of course, put in issue the title to the lands.

In September, 1870, Mr. Baker formed a partnership with the then young and gifted attorney, Colonel J. C. Spooner, late United States senator. Mr. Spooner at once grasped the situation and concurred fully with Mr. Baker in his opinion as to the title to the land grant. Under their direction the state agent, General Harriman, seized several million feet of logs, all of which were cut upon the grant after May 5, 1869. These logs were at once replevied by the lumbermen, and the cases, eleven in number, were transferred to the United States circuit court. The case of Schulenberg vs. Harriman was selected as a test case.

Judge Miller, of the United States supreme court, presided at the trial, and after a full hearing, upon which the lumbermen were represented by some of the ablest lawyers in the northwest, the court decided the case in favor of the state of Wisconsin, holding that the grant had not been divested by the lapse of time and that the state was and would remain the owner of the land, charged with the execution of its duty as trustee of the general government until divested by a decree of court or an act of congress. The case was taken to the supreme court of the United States and the judgment of the circuit court affirmed. As the result of this litigation capitalists at once came forward and offered to build the road. The grant was saved to the state and the road was built from Hudson to Bayfield under a charter granted to a corporation known as the North Wisconsin Railway company. Cities and towns have sprung up along the line of this road, and one of the richest portions of the northwest has been developed. Probably no suit that has ever been tried in the northwest involved so large an amount, as the land grant was worth many millions of dollars. That the grant would have been lost to the state and the construction of these roads delayed for a generation but for the zealous and determined efforts of Mr. Baker is conceded by all who are familiar with the facts. In the meantime the West Wisconsin railroad had been constructed and Mr. Baker became the general solicitor of the North Wisconsin company and Colonel Spooner of the West Wisconsin. Subsequently these and other roads were consolidated, forming the system now known as the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railroad, and Colonel Spooner accepted the position of general solicitor of the consolidated company. September 1, 1880, just ten years to a day from the date of its formation, the firm of Baker and Spooner was dissolved, Mr. Baker retaining the general practice, which had become large and important, and Colonel Spooner devoting himself to the business of the large corporation for which he had become general counsel. In his capacity as general solicitor of the consolidated roads Colonel Spooner was soon called upon, in a series of suits brought by other corporations, to defend the right of his company to the land grant. In conducting this remarkable litigation to a successful conclusion he won and still retains the reputation of being one of the ablest land grant lawyers in the United States.

In 1883 Mr. Baker accepted the position of Wisconsin attorney for the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie Railway company, which position he held for six years, covering the period of the construction of the road across the state of Wisconsin. In 1888 he retired from all outside business as corporation counsel and now devotes his entire time to his large office practice, and

has formed the partnership of Baker and Haven. While not restricting his practice to any single department of the law, from an early period of his professional career Mr. Baker has made a close study of real estate law, and is an acknowledged authority on tax titles.

Mr. Baker was married September 11, 1860, to Ellen M. Brewster, of Le Roy, N. Y., a graduate of Ingham university, located in that town, and the granddaughter of Judge Henry Brewster, a prominent citizen of Le Roy. They have one child, a son, L. A. Baker, now engaged in banking business in New Richmond, Wis. He was married in 1887 to Minnie A. Glover, daughter of John E. Glover, Esq., a resident of New Richmond, Wis.

In politics Mr. Baker is a republican, as he considers the principles of that party most conducive to the welfare of his country. He is, however, entirely independent in thought and is in no wise a politician. He does not esteem lightly the duties of citizenship but rather seeks earnestly to perform them fully and faithfully and with an eye single to the public welfare. In prive life he is an earnest Christian and has been for many years an active member of the Presbyterian church. In common with most successful lawyers he has the talent for application and unceasing effort. His powers of analysis are unusually keen and he rarely fails to reveal much that would escape another less gifted in that direction. In speaking he never aims at display, but has a thoroughly practical method of presenting a subject. A prominent man, who has known Mr. Baker intimately for many years, and who enjoys a reputation second to none, recently said: "Henry C. Baker has stood in the front rank of lawyers in northern Wisconsin for many years. He has allowed nothing to divert him from his profession. He never relies on others to do his work, and every question is investigated until the subject is exhausted. His ability to make concise and logical statements to the court is most remarkable, and his manner is one of honesty and candor, which leaves no room for doubt as to his own conviction. He commands the respect of judges and lawyers, and as a citizen he is without reproach.

He is uniformly courteous and kind. It may be said of him that his standing as a lawyer is only rivaled by his reputation as a gentleman; for in every relation in life he has been a perfect exponent of enlightened citizenship and refined manhood. No lawyer in the northwest is more respected among the members of the bar and none stands higher in public esteem.

**Allan Beggs,** postmaster of Hudson for the past decade, has a record of over half a century's continual residence in this city. He is a native of Easton, Pa., born July 22, 1853, son of William and Elizabeth (Dempster) Beggs, natives of Ireland and Scot-

land, respectively. They came to Hudson in June, 1854, and the father took up the boot and shoe business, which he followed until within two years of his death, which occurred in October, 1900, in his seventy-third year. His widow died in July, 1902, at the age of eighty-five years. William Beggs was a prominent Mason and had held all the offices in the Knights Templar at the time of his death. In the family there were five children, all of whom with one exception are now living. Allan is the oldest. Agnes and Sophia are twins. Agnes married J. W. North, of St. Paul, Minn., and Sophia is the wife of Peter McCallum, of Alberta, Minn. James lives at Superior, Wis., and Samuel was killed at Hudson Station in 1907. Allan Beggs was educated in the public schools of Hudson and learned the blacksmith's trade with his uncle, Samuel Hyslop. Afterward he engaged as salesman in his father's exclusive shoe store in Hudson, which he managed successfully until 1898, when he received an appointment as postmaster from President McKinley, November 19 of that year. He was reappointed February 7, 1902, and again on February 7, 1906. His present term expires in 1910. He was first married March 29, 1892, and his wife died March 12, 1900. By this union there were three children: Raymond H., Lucele I. and William A. Mr. Beggs was married the second time September 10, 1903. For many years Mr. Beggs has been prominent in local politics. He was chairman of the county board for six years, and delegate to the county convention and to numerous other political gatherings and conventions. He had considerable influence in the establishment of a county asylum for the insane at New Richmond, this county. He made the first recommendations and together with B. J. Price made trips all over the state for the purpose of studying plans for such an institution. Mr. Beggs is a popular member of the Elks and the Modern Woodmen of America. As a postmaster he is genial and affable and in the ten years that he has held the office there has never been anything but general satisfaction felt in his administration. He is one of the leading men of Hudson and well deserves all the honors that have been showered upon him.

**George W. Bell** was born in Waushara county, near Wautoma, Wis., July 24, 1853, a son of Hiram and Joanna (Moffat) Bell, both natives of Cortland county, New York. The father was born July 19, 1821, and the mother first saw the light of day October 21, 1815. They were married in the fall of 1850. In 1852 the father came to Wisconsin with his family. He enlisted in Company H, Sixteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, December, 1861. He was mortally wounded in the battle of Shiloh, April 6, 1862, and taken to Pittsburg, Pa., where he died two weeks later. The mother passed away October 21, 1889. They were the par-

ents of four children: Mrs. Alonzo Lewis, of Lake City, Minn.; George Walter, the subject of this sketch; Hubert D., of Hastings, Minn., and Hiram B., of Marquette, Mich. After his father's death George W. was taken to Manchester, Green Lake county, Wisconsin, where he received a common school education, afterward teaching school in the same county several years. In 1881 he entered the service of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railway company at St. Paul, Minn., as clerk in the auditor's office. He was promoted to assistant shop clerk at Shakopee, Minn. In the fall of the same year he returned to St. Paul as chief clerk to the master car builder. When the office of the master car builder was moved to Hudson, December 1, 1882, Mr. Bell retained his former position, coming to this city, where he has since continued to make his home. In 1884 he was promoted to the land office as clerk, and was made chief clerk three years later, holding this position until he was appointed land commissioner, May 9, 1894, which office he now holds. Upon the organization of the People's bank of Hudson, in 1905, he was elected president. November 1, 1883, Mr. Bell married Elizabeth M. Barter, born in Marquette county, Wisconsin, April 6, 1860, a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Mortimore) Barter, both natives of Devonshire, England. Mr. and Mrs. Bell have three children: Walter M., born September 4, 1884; Bessie Alice, born March 26, 1886; George Barter, born February 18, 1893. Mr. Bell is a director in the Wisconsin Savings, Loan and Trust company. Fraternally he is a member of St. Croix lodge, No. 56, F. and A. M.; St. Croix chapter, No. 44, and St. Croix commandery, No. 14, Knights Templar. He is a republican in politics and the family are members of the First Baptist church of Hudson.

**Harley G. Bickford, M. D.,** physician and surgeon, of Hudson city, was born in St. Cloud, Minn., February 29, 1876, a son of H. A. and Etta V. (Adley) Bickford, both natives of New England, the former having been born in Vermont and the latter in Maine. They removed to Minnesota in 1866 and lived in a number of different places. The father was superintendent of schools in Fergus Falls, also county superintendent in Otter Tail county. He is now engaged in farming at Maine, Minn. Soon after the birth of young Harley the family moved to Maine, Minn., where they were at the time of the great Indian scare. Harley G. was the second of a family of five children, four of whom are now living. He was educated in the public and high schools of Fergus Falls, and showed such attainments that he was given a license to teach, following this profession in Otter Tail county from the time he was sixteen until he attained his majority. In 1897 he entered the medical department of the Uni-

versity of Minnesota at Minneapolis and graduated with high honors in the class of 1901. He received his practical experience as interne in the City hospital at St. Paul and then practiced in that city one year. In 1903 he located in Hudson. His personality at once won for him many friends and his skill commanded many admirers. In the comparatively short time that he has been here he has built up a large practice and is as well liked socially as he is professionally. He is a member of the State Homœopathic Medical society of St. Paul, the St. Croix County Medical Society, the Blue lodge and the Royal Arch chapter of the Masons, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Independent Order of Foresters and other societies, clubs and fraternities. He is the medical examiner in Hudson for the Woodmen, the Foresters, the New England Mutual Insurance company, the Des Moines Mutual and the Des Moines Bankers, as well as many others. Dr. Bickford was married, August 2, 1905, to Mathildia, daughter of Nathan Logan, of Augustin, Wis. They have one child, Ruth Etta Maxine, born April 22, 1906.

**Christen J. Birkmose,** leading member of the firm of Birkmose, Wiberg and Company, proprietors of a large department store in Hudson, is a native of Denmark, born July 9, 1857. He received a thorough education in the common schools of his native town, and supplemented this with a course in one of the high schools near Copenhagen. He came to this country in 1879 and first engaged in farming at Albert Lea, Minn. In 1880 he entered the employ of Comstock, Clark and Company, flour millers in Hudson. He then went to Dakota for a short time. In 1881 he returned to Hudson and attended high school. The next year he engaged in farming in Otter Tail county, Minnesota. He again returned to Hudson in 1883 and entered the employ of J. J. Luck, later working for M. P. Palmer. December 1, 1887, he started a general merchandise business at Hudson in partnership with E. S. Larson and G. Roising under the title of C. J. Birkmose and Company. This partnership continued until 1897, when J. E. Wiberg was added to the company under the firm name of Birkmose, Wiberg and Company. In 1907 the company was incorporated with double capital, retaining the same name. The officers are: President, C. J. Birkmose; vice president, Carl J. Olsen; secretary and treasurer, L. Ostby; silent partner, J. E. Wiberg. The store is the leading general business house in Hudson, handling everything that is usually found in such a place. Mr. Birkmose is a member of the Danish society and of the I. O. O. F. He has been a member of the park board and has served as city treasurer. He is an up-to-date business man, and his store shows his belief in modern business methods. He has a large trade from all over the county, and his efforts to please have met with large

J. W. Bohrer

reward. He is a self-made man and is still making long strides on the road of success.

**John W. Bohrer,** furniture dealer and undertaker in Hudson, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, October 22, 1853, son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Dill) Bohrer, both natives of Bavaria, Germany. The father came to this country at the age of eighteen with his parents, locating at once in Ohio. The mother was brought to this country by her parents when she was but two years of age. Before settling in Ohio her parents lived for a time in New York. Joseph Bohrer is still living. His wife died January 16, 1905, at the age of seventy-three years. They had seven children, five of whom are still living. John W. is the oldest. Jacob lives at Grand Rapids, Mich. Rose is the wife of John Emerson, of Nashville, Tenn. George lives in Cleveland, Ohio. Charles resides in North Ridgeville, Ohio. The deceased members of the family are Elizabeth, wife of Charles Gay, and Abbie, wife of George Poling. John W. Bohrer is distinctively a self-made man. With almost no educational advantages he has, nevertheless, acquired a fund of information that might well be envied by many a college man. At the tender age of ten years he entered a furniture factory in North Ridgeville, O., for A. H. Moores, where he continued until the year 1885, when he went to Minneapolis, hoping to improve his lot. His success was almost instantaneous. He at once secured employment with the Hudson furniture factory in Hudson, Wis., and remained in this employ until 1892, when he went to work in the car shops of the Omaha Railroad Company in the same city. In 1895 he went to Baraboo, Wis., and was employed by Charles Wild in the furniture business until 1896, when he returned to Hudson and began in a small way in the retail furniture and manufacturing business. The same year he became associated with George W. Slater under the firm name of Slater & Bohrer. In September, 1901, Mr. Bohrer purchased his partner's interest and has since continued the business with great success, having bought out the business of Haugen & Arnson, furniture dealers and undertakers, and combined the same with his own. He became a licensed embalmer, and his services as a funeral director are greatly in demand. Mr. Bohrer is a member of St. Croix Lodge, No. 56, F. & A. M., and has filled all the chairs in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Foresters. He was married, December 24, 1879, to Leona, daughter of Chauncey and Helen (Decker) Blakesley, of North Ridgeville, O. They have one son, Harry N., born February 7, 1881, now engaged in business with his father and well liked by everyone in the community. Mr. Bohrer is one of the substantial citizens of Hudson and enjoys the respect and esteem of his fellow townspeople.

**Dr. E. B. Bradford,** manager and resident physician of the Hudson Sanatorium, was born in Oakland county, Michigan, in 1864, and spent his early days on the farm. After completing his common school education he moved to Lansing, Michigan, and took the complete course in the Lansing Business College. He subsequently spent four years in study at the Michigan Agricultural College, taking the arts and sciences course and receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science. Dr. Bradford then became interested in the raising of thoroughbred horses, importing stock of all kinds. In order to more thoroughly understand the care of these animals he took a course in the Michigan College of Veterinary and received the degree of D. V. S. During these studies he became interested in anatomy and therapeutics and decided to make medicine and surgery his future calling. Entering the Detroit College of Medicine, he graduated with honors and received the degree of M. D.

For ten years he practiced in Milwaukee, Wis., paying particular attention to diseases of the brain and nervous system. Two years ago he purchased the Sanatorium, which has since proven a success financially, and has also accomplished the therapeutic purposes for which it was founded. The Sanatorium was erected in 1887 at the cost of $65,000, being fully equipped. At that time it was known as the Oliver Wendell Holmes Hospital and was in charge of I. D. Wiltrout, M. D. In 1894 Dr. Samuel C. Johnson purchased the institution, added many improvements and changed the name to the Sanatorium. From his death, in October, 1903, until the purchase by Dr. Bradford, in July, 1905, the place remained closed. Dr. Bradford, who is regarded as an authority on all nervous diseases, makes the statement that within the next few years there will be more of a revolution in the general care and treatment of mental cases than the world has ever yet known. He maintains that 75 per cent of the 160,000 insane who fill the state institutions of this country at the present time were curable in the acute stage. The complete recovery of several chronic cases taken from the incurable wards of state institutions substantiates this statement. "Our state institutions, with 1,000 patients, should have ten competent physicians instead of one or two," says Dr. Bradford. "If their salaries and terms of office depended on results obtained, fewer young men and women would be found corralled in the incurable wards." Dr. Bradford has put his theories to a practical test, and the results that he has obtained have been more than satisfactory.

The Sanatorium is located on a bluff ninety feet above Willow river and is surrounded by a park of fifteen acres of rolling land. The grounds are beautiful, entirely free from malaria, and command a magnificent view of the surrounding country—just

THE SANATORIUM, HUDSON, WIS.

the place for jaded nerves, unstrung and in need of quiet repose, recreation and treatment. The building, especially designed for the purpose, has large, airy and well-lighted rooms, all comfortably furnished. A steam fan with a capacity of 9,000 cubic feet per minute insures perfect ventilation. Wide verandas completely enclosed with glass in the winter, together with a fine sun parlor, offer inviting opportunities for sun baths and promenades. The building is heated by both hot water and steam, is lighted by electricity and provided with passenger elevator, electric bells and fire alarms, and all the modern conveniences so necessary in an institution of this kind. All forms of treatment are employed—Turkish, Russian, electric, medicated and plain baths; Swedish movement and modern hygenic and therapeutic measures are all in use. The Nauheim bath with Schotts' exercise is used for proper heart cases. All forms of electricity, such as static, galvanic and faradic, are in use. Dr. Bradford treats all diseases, acute or chronic, except those of a contagious or infectious nature. The most modern equipment is used for the successful treatment of derangement of the digestive organs and all nervous diseases. A separate department has been installed for the treatment of all mental cases, and there is no place in the country where patients are given more attention. Few people of Hudson realize that, aside from the fact that they have a model hospital and sanatorium, it contributes to the commercial interests of the city something like $15,000 each year.

**Benn Carroll Bunker,** assistant cashier of the Bank of Hudson, is regarded as one of the rising young men of this city and enjoys the confidence and esteem of all who know him. He is a native of this city, having been born April 27, 1876, a son of James Albee and Irene Walton (Churchill) Bunker, both natives of North Anson, Me. The father was born December 5, 1827, and the mother January 25, 1835. They were married in their native village, November 5, 1854. They were both early New Englanders, but descended from staunch old Scotch-Irish ancestry. James Bunker was a photographer by calling and later in life took up the insurance business. He came to Hudson in 1855 and served as city clerk for twenty-two years. He had four children, three of whom are now living—Greenwood, Harry and Benn C. Mr. Bunker, Sr., passed away January 7, 1898, and was followed to his grave by a large concourse of loving friends, in whose hearts he had occupied a place of affection and regard. Benn C. Bunker attended the Hudson schools and supplemented this with a complete course in the Archibald Business College, of Minneapolis, Minn., being one of the graduating class of 1895. When his father died, in 1898, Mr. Bunker succeeded him in the insur-

ance business. He met with considerable success in this business, but in 1899, when he was offered the position of bookkeeper in the Bank of Hudson, he decided that there was a wider field for work in the banking business and accepted the offer. January 3, 1905, he was appointed assistant cashier of the Bank of Hudson, which position he now holds. Fraternally Mr. Bunker is a member of St. Croix Lodge, No. 56, F. & A. M.; Hudson Lodge, No. 640, B. P. O. E., and the Independent Order of Foresters. He is treasurer of the Foresters and the Elks, having occupied that position with the latter order since 1901.

**Willard P. Carr.** The Carr family was among the very early settlers of Massachusetts and for several generations resided at Ashfield, Franklin county, where Willard P. Carr was born, August 4, 1834. In the early fifties Willard P. Carr settled at New Lisbon, Wis., where he engaged in the mercantile business for twenty-five years, and was here married to Carrie Sophia and at an early age removed with the family to South Dakota, Ramsey, on August 9, 1858. She was born at Waterloo, Wis., July 22, 1843. In the early eighties he removed to South Dakota and was postmaster of Sioux Falls during Cleveland's first administration. In 1892 Willard P. Carr and N. B. Bailey organized the Farmers' & Merchants' State Bank, of River Falls, Wis., and from 1892 up to shortly before his death Mr. Carr resided at River Falls as president of the bank. His death occurred at River Falls on October 10, 1899.

**Fred J. Carr** was born at New Lisbon, Wis., March 13, 1869, and graduated at the Sioux Falls high school in 1887 and in 1888 graduated from the Forestville Academy, Forestville, N. Y. In 1889 he attended Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, N. H., and entered Harvard University in 1900. After two years he left Harvard to engage in the banking business and came to Hammond, Wis., in 1892, and organized the Bank of Hammond. On April 21, 1892, Fred J. Carr was married to Ada Couch Elwell, of Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Carr served as cashier of the Bank of Hammond for five years to 1897, when he resigned to become vice-president and later cashier of the Bank of Hudson, Wis. Fred J. Carr has been identified with the banking business of the St. Croix valley, having been a stockholder and director of other banks at Baldwin, Clear Lake and River Falls, and for a time serving as president of the First National Bank of River Falls. Mr. Carr also served as president of the Wisconsin Bankers' Association in 1907, and the same year was one of the vice-presidents of the American Bankers' Association. Mr. Carr is the present cashier of the Bank of Hudson.

**Christ Casanora** was born in Switzerland, June 29, 1865. His parents, Joseph and Agnes Casanora, still reside in that country.

In 1880, at the age of fifteen years, Christ came to Stillwater, Minn. In 1896 he and his brother, Joseph, bought a brewery from George Recdher, of Hudson, Wis., which was destroyed by fire. In 1898 it was rebuilt. In 1908 the brothers added a bottling plant to their concern and the firm now enjoys a satisfactory business. Mr. Casanora married, October 27, 1890, Miss Post, a native of Germany, and they have three children—Mary C., Frank and Joseph A. The brother, Joseph, who is a partner in the business, was born in Switzerland, May 26, 1870. He married Catherine, a daughter of Robert Karros, of Hudson, and the following children were born: Agnes, Catherine, John and Leonard. Both the brothers are rising young men who have attained success by their own efforts, and are well thought of by their friends.

**John Comstock,** now deceased, was for many years one of the foremost citizens of Hudson, and any history of this valley would be incomplete without an extended notice of his character and services. He was born in Owasco, Cayuga county, N. Y., December 19, 1812, a son of Elkanah and Sarah (Greene) Comstock. His father was a Baptist clergyman, who in 1824 was appointed by the Baptist convention of New York to preach in Michigan, being the first minister of that denomination to preach in that state. His mother was a niece of Gen. Nathaniel Greene, one of the foremost officers of the patriot armies during the Revolution. John Comstock attended the public schools in New York until his twelfth year, when he came westward with his parents, completing his education in Pontiac, Mich. From his earliest days young John displayed a marked talent for mechanics, and his spare moments were all spent in "tinkering" with machinery of his own contrivance. His parents favored this inclination and when he was old enough fulfilled his desires by apprenticing him to a carpenter and cabinet maker for three years. During this apprenticeship he became fully versed in construction, and his genius in this direction had an opportunity for wide expansion. He continued in this trade until 1843, when he went into the mercantile and milling business at Commerce, Mich., where he carried on a successful industry for thirteen years. In 1856 he came to Hudson, Wis., and engaged in contracting, uniting this enterprise with the sale of real estate. When the First National Bank of Hudson was organized, in June, 1863, Mr. Comstock was elected president, holding that office until January, 1867, when he resigned, his successor being Alfred Goss. In 1870 Mr. Comstock was again elected president, continuing in that capacity until his lamented death, which occurred January 3, 1890. Politically, Mr. Comstock was a staunch Republican and served his party in public office on several occasions, notably as mayor of Hudson two terms and member of the general assembly one

term. He was active in church and charitable work, and early in life became connected with the Presbyterian church. Later he adopted the views of the Baptist denomination, but never formally united with that body. October 15, 1841, Mr. Comstock was united in marriage to Mrs. Lydia F. Seymour, a daughter of Hon. Theodore Foster, of Rhode Island, a prominent attorney and for thirteen years a member of the United States senate. The following tribute by Judge Herman L. Humphrey, a personal friend of Mr. Comstock, ably sums up the life, work and character of that distinguished gentleman: "Hon. John Comstock was not only a very able man, but was also possessed of varied abilities. Possessing excellent judgment, his advice was sought in all departments of business. The merchant, the farmer, the banker, the lawyer, the contractor, the projector of railroads and other large enterprises sought his views and placed much reliance upon his judgment. Slow and deliberate in all matters of moment, when his conclusion was reached it stood as his judgment and seldom, if ever, did he have reason to modify or change it. He was a successful business man, far sighted, energetic and unswerving. His benefactions will never be known; his liberality and large heartedness were proverbial. There was no enterprise that looked to advancement in his city that did not command his attention, and if necessary his time and his money. He never deviated from the path of duty and could not bear with patience those who did. To young men he was ever ready to give counsel and to give aid if needed and they merited it. Organizing the First National Bank in 1863, he was its president with the exception of two years to the time of his death, and today it is numbered among the most substantial in the country. As his impress is left on that institution, so did he leave his impress on every undertaking with which he was connected. None ever failed; all were highly successful. This can be said of but few men. Mr. Comstock possessed rare abilities, unnumbered virtues, and his adopted city reveres his memory and holds him in sacred remembrance as her mayor, representative, citizen and friend."

**Edwin Dailey** is spending his declining years at Hudson after an active life that has been both busy and successful. He was born in Canada, October 8, 1839, a son of William and Mercy (Bernhardt) Dailey. His father was born in Ireland and came to Canada in 1818, being a cabinet maker. He moved to Hudson in 1849 and began to develop 160 acres of government land. He assisted in building the first sawmill in Hudson. Two years after settling here he purchased a house and lot in Hudson and brought his family from Canada. In 1852 he built a cabinet shop, where he worked until his death in 1877. He was justice of the peace and member of the school board. His wife was a native of New

York state. Edward attended the Academy at River Falls, in addition to the common schools of the township. Later he took up lumbering in the woods. In 1870 he bought 120 acres of land. Selling this, he bought 257 acres. Still later he sold this and bought 200 acres in Hudson township, four miles east of the city. He broke and improved all these pieces of land. His chief industry has been that of dairying. He raised short-horn and Holstein cattle, also Poland-China hogs and Barred Plymouth Rock fowls. Mr. Dailey was married, November 21, 1878, to Annie, daughter of Thomas and Annie (Stuart) Johnson. She died three years later. Her husband continued farming until 1903, when he went to live with his son, Guy E. Dailey, born 1882, and married to Perle Petree. Mr. Guy E. Dailey owns a lot and comfortable house on Fourth street, Hudson City. Mr. Dailey was chairman of the town three years; also served on the sideboard and school board. He is a Democrat and a member of Hudson Lodge, No. 85, I. O. O. F. The family faith is that of the Episcopal church. Throughout life Mr. Dailey has been a strong believer in the advancement of education, and he supplemented his own schooling with wide reading in after life. He is now reaping a well-deserved reward of years of hard and faithful toil.

**Peter E. Engbertson,** manager of the Consolidated Lumber Company, which was organized in August, 1904, was born in Racine, Wis., June 18, 1883. His parents, J. M. and Carrie Engbertson, were natives of Norway. They came to the United States in 1880, locating at Racine. Peter was educated in the public schools of that place, after which he came to Hudson and entered the employ of the Central Lumber Company, where he was employed for five years. Subsequently he went with the Consolidated Lumber Company and in 1906 he became manager of the concern, a position which he still occupies. Mr. Engbertson is a member of the Mystic Workers, Sons of Norway. In 1905 he was united in marriage with Inga Gilbertson, daughter of August and Anna Gilbertson, of Hudson, originally from Norway. Mr. Engbertson is well liked by the concern that employs him and is respected by the men of whom he has charge.

**James A. Frear,** secretary of the state of Wisconsin, is distinctively a product of this state, born in Hudson, Wis., October 24, 1861, son of Aaron H. and Margaret J. (Rickard) Frear, both natives of New York. The former first saw the light of day in November, 1835, and the latter July 4, 1837, their marriage being performed at Hudson. When the call came for volunteers at the outbreak of the great Civil war in 1861 the same blood which has since stirred James A. Frear in his battles for political integrity throbbed within the veins of Aaron M. Frear and he was among the first to enlist, enduring the hardships of camp and battle for

three years and nine months. With such a father and under the care of a mother of beautiful character and devout faith, James A. grew to young manhood on the farm, attending the common schools and acquiring in home and school and field that strength of body and clearness of mind that has since stood him in such good stead in his public career. In 1878 he was in attendance at the Lawrence University at Appleton, Wis., when the family decided to move to Washington, D. C., in which city the father still resides, being a member of the force in the government pension office. James A. Frear began his public service with five years' work in the United States signal corps at Fort Myer, Va., at Indianapolis and at Washington. In 1884 he graduated from the National Law University at Washington and was admitted to the bar of the Supreme court of the District of Columbia the same year. He at once returned to Hudson, Wis., and served for one year as private secretary to Senator John C. Spooner, also starting the practice of law. He became interested in politics and was elected to several city offices, including that of city attorney, in which position he remained for several years. In April of 1896 he was appointed district attorney for St. Croix county by Governor Upham, and was elected to that office for three consecutive terms thereafter. In 1901 he was appointed on the staff of the governor, and was elected to the assembly the following year, being sent to the state senate in 1904. During the latter year he had the felicity of presenting the name of R. M. LaFollett to the Republican convention, making a stirring speech, which none who heard it will ever forget. It is worthy of note that this gathering was the last Republican convention to be held in the state of Wisconsin, the primary law going into effect soon afterward. March 9, 1905, Mr. Frear was appointed chairman of the senate committee for the investigation of state insurance, and at the same session he was chosen a member of the Wisconsin insurance investigation committee. In 1906 he served as chairman of both of these committees. His work in this relation is too widely known to need comment. Fearless and fully determined to probe the matter to the bottom, he left no stone unturned in his efforts to secure protection to the people of Wisconsin who had their money invested in insurance, and the present high standard that the laws require of companies doing business in this state is largely due to his untiring efforts and honest endeavors. From this important achievement to the office of secretary of state was but a short step, and September 4, 1906, he was nominated for that position at the primaries, and in November of that year was elected by a large majority. In 1908 he was renominated without an opponent, his services leaving no room for opposition. Like so many other public men of this country, Mr. Frear leads an ideal

home life. He was married March 6, 1889, to Hattie E. Wood, of Washington, D. C. This union has been blessed with two children, Margaret M., born June 6, 1891, and Philip A., born September 14, 1893.

**E. W. Gridley,** one of the younger of the successful farmers of the county, was born in Hudson township, April 11, 1876. He is the son of Russell and Laverna Gridley, who came to St. Croix county in the early sixties. Russell Gridley established a hardware business in Hudson, being among the earliest hardware dealers of this section. After successfully conducting this business for a number of years, he disposed of his interest in it and started farming three miles out of Hudson, where he spent his remaining days. He has six children, four of whom are living. They are: Russell, Ida, Alfred and Elbert W. E. W., who received a common school education, had devoted his life to the development of the farm which his father left. The land consists of 200 acres, 150 of which are under full cultivation. Mr. Gridley has made many improvements and brought the farm to a high degree of productiveness. He carries on a general farming, including the raising of graded stock. He is a member of the American Society of Equity and has been clerk of the school board. The Republican platform covers his political faith. He is a worthy example of the generation whose fathers paved the way for the present prosperity of the St. Croix valley, and is one of the men who are likely to be heard from in future years.

**William M. Grant,** after successfully following several occupations, is now located in Hudson City, where he does market gardening, making a specialty of onion sets. His principal market is the head of the lakes. He was born April 17, 1862, at Hudson, son of George A. and Jane (Hosford) Grant. George A. Grant came to Hudson in the early fifties and worked eight years as a carpenter. Then he went to Kinnickinnic, St. Croix county, and bought 200 acres of land. To this he added 160 acres at Erin and 160 at Beldenville. The farm at Kinnickinnic was sold, December, 1892. During the following fall he acquired an acre of land at the end of Vine street, Hudson, and erected thereon a house and barns. A few years later he moved to Eighth street, where he lived until December 1, 1903, when he was taken to St. Luke's Hospital and died twelve days later. Upon leaving the public schools at Kinnickinnic, William M. Grant first engaged in brick making and logging. He then bought a farm in Hudson, which he tilled until 1896, when he successfully engaged as a traveling salesman for L. L. May & Co., of St. Paul. In 1898 he purchased a farm of forty acres, which he cultivated. In 1900 he bought a house and five acres adjoining Hudson City, rebuilding the house and improving the

land. Mr. Grant was married, November 28, 1889, to Hattie Otis, of Hudson. Her father, George, married to Harriet Barnes, was a prominent hardware dealer at Hudson until 1876, when he took up the meat business for a short time. After this he was bookkeeper for the Willow River Milling Company until he died, November 1, 1892. He was the father of five children—Hattie C., wife of the subject of this sketch; Olive and Mary, who died when young; Millicent P., wife of H. L. Bishop, a farmer at Hudson, and Basle J., an accountant for the Seattle Electric Company, Seattle, Wash. William M. Grant is a member of the Union Commercial Travelers' Association and of the Woodmen. He is a Republican and has served one term as town assessor. The family faith is that of the Baptist denomination. Mr. Grant's travels have been a valuable experience to him, and he is well informed upon the topics of the day. He takes a deep interest in all public affairs.

**L. G. Greene** inherits his sterling qualities from his parents, his father, Caleb, having been a Baptist clergyman for twenty years. Caleb Greene was born in Providence, R. I. He preached the gospel in New England and Ohio. Retiring from the ministry in 1850, he located on a farm at Hudson, where for many years he was a partner in the milling firm of Cox & Greene. His death occurred at Hudson, July 3, 1873. L. G. Greene was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, January 23, 1847, his mother's maiden name being Sarah Wescott. He received a common school education and served in the Union army one year. After working a time in his father's mill he was received into partnership in 1866, under the firm name of Greene & Son. At the time of his father's death he took entire charge of the business until 1894, when a part of the mill was swept away by a flood. One year later Mr. Greene purchased the present site at Junction, North Line, township of Hudson. He enlarged and improved the elevator that occupied it, installing up-to-date machinery and equipment. Della Rogers, to whom he was married, December 15, 1867, was the daughter of James and Roxy (Barnett) Rogers, of River Falls, Wis. Mr. Rogers died in the East. Mrs. Rogers spent her declining years at the home of her daughter. Mr. Greene was sheriff of St. Croix county two years, also supervisor of town and city several terms. He is a prominent Elk and a member of the I. O. F. and I. O. O. F. The members of the family attend the Baptist and Methodist churches. The residence which Mr. Greene has rebuilt and improved is one of the most beautiful in Hudson, and is a fitting home for a man who is widely known and universally respected. He has two children. They are Mrs. F. R. Coit, of Hudson, Wis., and Mrs. H. A. Little, of St. Paul, Minn.

**C. E. Haugen** is a native of Norway. Coming to this country in 1887, he at once took up the business of tailor, which he followed for a number of years in St. Paul, Minn., afterward coming to Hudson. He first found employment with S. O. Qvale, who was at that time in the clothing and dry goods business. Mr. Haugen's next employment was for eleven years with M. Goldberg. In 1902, in partnership with Oluf Saugestad, he started a men's furnishing and clothing store, which continued for one and a half years, when P. A. Eder purchased Mr. Saugestad's interest. Until August 1, 1906, the firm name was known as Haugen & Eder. Mr. Haugen is a man of much foresight, and viewing the situation from a financial standpoint, he sold his half interest to Mr. Eder and immediately fitted up a building 24x65 feet on Second street, one and a half blocks north of the postoffice, and embarked in the clothing business for himself. At present he has one of the neatest and best kept clothing stores in this section of the country. He moved to present location, on the corner across from the First National Bank, in August, 1907. He is qualified by his many years of experience in this line to purchase goods that will be satisfactory to his customers; while being a tailor, the repair work turned out by his shop is of the best.

He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Sons of Norway, the Foresters and the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Haugen was married in 1896 to Ellen B. Iverson, of Ellsworth, Wis. There have been two children—Florence B. died December 23, 1906, at the age of nine years, and William E. is at home.

**Hon. Eugene W. Helms** was born in Salem, Kenosha county, Wis., April 2, 1859, a son of Ira P. and Hannah W. (Cornell) Helms, both natives of New York state. Eugene W. Helms received his education in the Wisconsin State University and graduated from the Wisconsin Law School in 1884, when he entered upon the practice of law at Madison, Wis., in partnership with T. C. Richmond. In the fall of 1884 Mr. Helms formed a partnership with I. C. Sloan, which continued until May, 1888; he then came to Hudson, Wis., where he formed a partnership with H. C. Baker. This continued until he was elected circuit judge in the spring of 1896. Mr. Helms was elected district attorney in the fall of 1893, in which capacity he served until elected circuit judge. October 18, 1888, Mr. Helms married Mary Butler, who was born in Cambridge, Wis. They have one daughter, Frances M., born July 13, 1889. One of the leading citizens of Hudson, who has known the judge intimately for more than twenty years, says:

"As a lawyer Judge Helms while at the bar was able, pains-

taking and conscientious in his work. He enjoyed the respect and esteem not only of the members of the bar, but of the entire community. As a judge he possesses in an unusual degree that ability to hold an even balance in the discharge of the duties of his high office, so rare and yet so essential to the proper administration of justice. He has been twice re-elected judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Wisconsin with no opposing candidate in the field. Aside from his legal acquirements, Judge Helms is a man of scholarly attainments, an industrious and critical reader of the best authors. Although of a religious turn of mind, he is liberal and charitable toward all, conceding to others the right he claims for himself of entire freedom of choice in matters of religious belief."

**George E. Holmes** reckons his present prosperity and possessions from $750, which he brought with him when he came to St. Croix county, in 1880, and settled upon the farm which he now occupies. He was born in Canada in 1852, son of John and Martha (Saxton) Holmes, both of whom died in Canada. George E. received a common school education, his early farming experience in Canada making him well qualified to develop the 280 acres which he bought here. On these acres, with the assistance of his sons, he carries on a general farming business, raising Jersey and short-horn cattle, graded stock and Poland-China hogs. Half of the land is under the plow, while eighty acres are covered with fair timber. In 1907 a fine new house was erected on the property. Mr. Holmes is a Republican and has a long record of able office holding, having served twelve years on the side board and fifteen years as school director and treasurer. He was married in 1880 to Mary Ann Davis, whose parents came from Canada to Clear Lake, this state, and are now dead. Mrs. Holmes is a member of the L. A. S. There are three children—G. Alden, Ernest J. and Pearl M., all of whom are at home. Mr. Holmes is one of those solid citizens who, without seeking glory or praise, are responsible for the reputation for thrift, industry and financial stability that the county enjoys.

**Dr. Otis Hoyt** was born at Sandwich, Stafford county, N. H., December 3, 1812. His father was a farmer by occupation, and he had the privilege of attending such schools as the district afforded. But he was inclined to learn faster than he could get on in the schools and studied much by himself. He went through Pike's Arithmetic in six weeks, doing all the "sums" until he got them right. Later he studied Latin. He entered the academy at Fryberg, Me., and received from that institution a certificate of proficiency in Latin and other branches of learning. Having been examined by various superintending school committees, he was pronounced by them to be "qualified to instruct youth," and he

DR. OTIS HOYT

taught several terms in the towns of Sandwich, Northfield, and other places. Carrying his shoes in his hand, in order to "save them," he set out on foot from Sandwich to Cape Cod, where he was engaged for a term of school. The Cape Cod country was rather bleak and desolate, but he got there and taught the school. Whatever other recompense he may have received we do not remember hearing him say, but we do remember his saying that "the Cape Cod girls gave him the itch." He matriculated at Dartmouth college and was graduated with the degree of doctor of medicine in 1833. A unique certificate, executed by hand, shows that he joined the Phi Delta Mu Society October 29, 1833. Later he attended Jefferson Medical college, Philadelphia, graduating in 1836, and passed an examination for entering the navy. He began the practice of medicine at Sandborton Bridge, N. H., in company with Dr. Enos Hoyt, an uncle, and continued with him about four years, including vacations previous to his graduation. He was also "proficient in dental surgery and setting teeth." During 1834 he opened an office at Mason, N. H., and in 1835 married Mary R. King, a daughter of Seth King, of New Ipswich. While at Mason he performed successfully a very unusual operation for the removal of a portion of the jaw bone. He shortly removed to Framingham, Mass. In 1846 he removed to Charlestown, Mass., relinquishing his practice to his uncle, Dr. Enos Hoyt, and giving a bond of $2,000 not to interfere with the practice of his uncle by practicing in Framingham or within ten miles of there in either direction. In the meantime, his first wife had died, and he afterwards married Eliza B. King, also a daughter of Seth King, of New Ipswich.

When the Mexican war broke out, he was a lieutenant in Company K, Fourth Regiment Light Infantry, Third Brigade, Second Division, of the militia of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He was discharged at his own request and was commissioned by President James K. Polk major surgeon of the First Massachusetts Volunteers, of which Caleb Cushing was colonel. He served during the war and held several important and responsible positions as surgeon of the military posts of Jalapa, Matamoras, Monterey and the City of Mexico. When General Cushing had the misfortune to break his leg, Dr. Hoyt adjusted the limb and was his attending surgeon throughout the progress of his recovery. As an expression of his gratitude, General Cushing presented him with a fine saddle-horse. While the regiment was stationed at Monterey, 1847, Surgeon Otis Hoyt was made chairman of a committee to coöperate with officers of the regular army to make arrangements for celebrating the Fourth of July. They met and made arrangements and a committee waited upon Brigadier General Cushing to request him to make an address, which

he consented to do. And also, by request of the committee, Colonel I. H. Wright read the Declaration of Independence. They celebrated on July 5, as the 4th fell on Sunday, "the day as dear to us in a strange clime and in the midst of war as when welcomed at our peaceful home." At this distance, in point of time, it is interesting to know that various sentiments were responded to, dear to the hearts of old-time Americans: "The President," "The Army," "The Constitution," "The Illustrious Dead," "America's Fair Women," etc.

At the close of the Mexican War, Dr. Hoyt returned to Charlestown only long enough to make arrangements for moving west. He made one trip out to reconnoiter and returned for his family, then consisting of wife, and two children of the first wife. They came down the Ohio river and up the Mississippi to St. Paul. Either at this time or subsequently Dr. Hoyt purchased some land in St. Paul, where the Union Depot now stands, but thinking St. Croix Falls a more favorable location, because of its water power, which General Cushing was interested in and because this point was the "head of navigation," he went there to live. In 1851 he was appointed by General Nelson Dewey appraiser of lands located in St. Croix county. In addition to the practice of medicine, he also made himself useful in the new community in the office of postmaster, justice of peace, etc. In 1852, having been elected to the legislature, he removed his family to Stillwater, as there were no houses to be had in Hudson, where he had decided to make his future home. Here he built a residence on the corner of Third and Locust streets, where it still stands. Dr. Hoyt was eminent in his profession, was public-spirited and engaged at times in successful business enterprises. Dr. Hoyt was one of the principal promoters of the enterprise to build a railroad from St. Croix lake to the head of Lake Superior, and was active in procuring from congress the valuable grant of land in aid of the work. It was this land grant which subsequently secured the construction of what is now known as the Northern Division of the Omaha Railroad.

In the vicissitudes and hardships of pioneer life Mrs. Hoyt, who came of a strong and self-reliant New England English family, proved herself a worthy helpmeet. She possessed a wonderfully well balanced temperament, and was calm and sensible under trials, uncomplaining and determined to surmount difficulties, and was an apt competitor with her husband in wit and repartee. After she had been living in St. Croix Falls two or three years she one day sat by the window with her sewing, and a baby in a chair near her. An Indian came to the window and put his blanket up to enable him to shut out the light and see in the better. He stood leering at her, undoubtedly expecting

her to jump up and show signs of fear. Very quietly she said to little Mary, "Run out the back door and tell father to come," and continued her sewing, although much frightened. "Father" came soon, and sent the Indian away. At one time, when hunting had been poor, the Indians entered the cellar and Mrs. Hoyt heard them at the pork barrel. Again little Mary was dispatched for "Father," and he came and gave them a few pounds of pork and made them understand they must ask him when they wanted pork. The "medicine man" seemed to be in much favor with the Indians and he could quite easily control them for that reason.

April 5, 1861, Dr. Hoyt was appointed inspector of the Second Brigade, Eleventh Division of the troops concentrating at Madison, Wis., where he examined over 11,000 recruits. August 19, 1862, he was appointed examining surgeon for St. Croix county, and September 8, 1862, was appointed surgeon of the Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He shared the fortunes of the regiment in General Sibley's Northwestern Indian expedition via Fort Rice, Dak. On the return of the regiment from the Northwest he served as brigade surgeon, also as post surgeon at Bowling Green and Louisville, Ky. He was mustered out of the service September 20, 1865, and subsequently he resided at Hudson. Among the medical societies to which he belonged are the following: New Hampshire Medical School, 1836; Massachusetts Medical Society, 1838; St. Croix Valley Medical Society, 1860; Minnesota State Medical Society, 1874; St. Croix County Medical Society, 1882, and was its first president; Northwestern Interstate Medical Society, 1882. He was an Odd Fellow during the thirties and a Mason for many years. The children of Dr. Otis Hoyt are: Mary R., Mrs. Charles Dexter, and afterwards Mrs. H. A. Wilson, deceased; Charles Otis, deceased, both children of the first wife; Caleb Cushing, deceased; Ella Frances, now Mrs. C. F. King, of Hudson; Lizzie, deceased; Anna Preston, now Mrs. F. W. Epley, of New Richmond; Ida Maria, now Mrs. E. D. Sewall, of Chicago; Harriet Hubbard, now Mrs. John A. Wyand, of Crookston, Minn.; and Eliza Bellows, now Mrs. W. R. Reynolds, of Chatfield, Minn.—Contributed by relatives.

**J. P. Ingles** is the moving spirit of that picturesque school which, overlooking beautiful lake and verdant valley, is engaged in turning out clear-headed, clean-limbed, well-muscled young men with thorough academic, manual and business training, who shall be the modern prototypes of that hero of the boys of all ages, for whom the school is named. The institution is still in its infancy, but already its beneficial results have been shown in its influence upon its students, and the Galahad school is in line to become one of the leading preparatory schools for boys in this section of the country. The situation combines the two ideals

for private school life; it is near enough to a business center to keep in close touch with the outside world, and yet far enough away to insure the benefits of country life and freedom from city distraction. The place where the school is located, on the lake, two miles from the city of Hudson, Wis., was originally intended for a country estate, and its main features have been retained, so that there is an entire absence of any institutional effect. The principal building on the beautiful grounds is a large stone structure, built along colonial lines of solid masonry, with large windows shuttered and barred and large porches extending the whole length of the house on either side. To the left of this home is the study hall and the school, and to the right is the dormitory of the upper school boys, while beyond is the manual training school. The campus is covered with giant oaks, pines and maples. One of the main features of the school is the large personal equation in the work. The school is limited to fifty boys, and being now in its third year, has an enrollment of about forty. There is a corps of five teachers on the faculty, and this gives a large opportunity for individual work, both in study and character building. The students are made to feel that the teachers are their best friends, and the closest relations are maintained between the instructors and the scholars. The boys are not left to master their lessons as best they can, but are taught how to study as well. In the academic line the standard for scholarship is high, each teacher making large demands for his recitations, and the latest methods in teaching are employed. In a business line the boys are given thorough training by means of a bank, which is organized under the authority of the school, one of the boys acting as teller. It is different from the usual type of business training banks in that it handles actual money. The questions of spending money and the allowances for supplies, etc., are handled through the bank. Each boy has his own check and bank books, makes his deposits by means of deposit slips, and special attention is paid to making out the paper, signing and endorsing it. At the present time the deposits aggregate about $500. On the physical side the boys of the school have some excellent opportunities. They are taught the advantages and the delights of clean sports, and although in their competitions with outsiders they exercise the utmost fairness, never descending to any of the questionable methods so often employed in such events, they always give a good account of their skill, strength and training. At the school physical exercise in the open air twice a day is required, and considerable attention is given to running. Baseball, football and basketball are put in the field in their season, and the school has already developed some excellent players. In the line of character building the

school has excellent advantages. The teachers are manly men, well suited to be models of vigorous manhood to the growing youngsters. The aim underlying the school is that it must endeavor to stimulate individual effort on the part of each boy; that it must actually develop in him self-reliance and self-mastery and a feeling of personal responsibility, and that it must make him realize his duty to himself, his neighbor and his country. To the visitor one of the most interesting features is the work in manual training. This work is conducted along the lines advocated and practiced by William Morris, of England. The boys are given beautiful quartered red oak and other woods, with once in a while a piece of leather or other material, and under careful supervision are allowed to make articles of furniture that will not only cause them that joy that comes from the creation of a beautiful object, but will give them a useful article that will increase in beauty and value as the years go by, continuing forever a beautiful reminder of school days at old Galahad. The boys make Morris chairs, book shelves, stools, tables, chairs and stands, and the number of articles that they turn out is really amazing. The school is still in its infancy, but the future of its influence is without limit, and in years to come men will look back upon their happy boyhood days spent at Galahad School in Hudson with a feeling of gratitude that Mr. Ingles' idea and ideal shaped itself in so delightful and beneficial a form.

**William J. Johnson** was born in Ontario, January 2, 1855, son of Thomas E. and Anne Johnson, who came to Hudson in 1872. The mother and father are both deceased. In 1879-82 William J. Johnson engaged in the livery business at River Falls, Wis., at the end of which he sold out, and returning to Hudson, formed a partnership with C. R. Coon, conducting the livery business under the firm name of W. J. Johnson & Co. Later he bought Mr. Coon's interest and has since continued the business. He is a member of the Masonic order, and also of the B. P. O. E., and has served as alderman of the city. He married Delia E. Childs, daughter of James H. Childs, of Hudson. Four children were born to them—Jean, Laurie C., William H. and Anne B.

**Andrew P. Kealy,** who was elected sheriff of St. Croix county, Wisconsin, in 1906 on the Democratic ticket, is popular with every man in the county, and his services as custodian of the law and order of the county have won for him a host of admirers. He is fearless and devoted to his duty, and in the execution of the affairs incidental to his office he shows neither fear nor favor. Mr. Kealy was born in Pittsburg, Pa., January 24, 1864, a son of Peter J. and Mary (McLoughlin) Kealy, both natives of Ireland. They came to this country in the early days and in 1870 settled

in Pleasant Valley, St. Croix county. The father was a practical and prominent farmer, and was honored with the position of chairman of the county board. His wife passed away in 1895. They had two sons. Robert now lives in Pleasant Valley, and Andrew P. is the subject of this sketch. Andrew attended the public schools of Hudson and then worked on his father's farm until 1894, when he purchased a farm in Hammond township, this county, and made various improvements. He was elected chairman of the county board, and is regarded as one of the leading Democrats of the county. Mr. Kealy is a member of the B. P. O. E., the M. W. A. and the Catholic Order of Foresters, in all of which he has hundreds of warm friends and admirers. He was married, May 12, 1898, to Nellie, the daughter of Edward and Bridget Moran, of El Paso, Pierce county, this state. They have one child, Andrew W., born in Hammond township, July 13, 1900. Although he has won distinction in many lines already, it is predicted by Mr. Kealy's friends that he has yet many more honors in store for him.

**Charles F. King, M. D.,** physician and surgeon of Hudson, is a native of Buffalo, N. Y., born September 14, 1844, son of William P. and Bridget (McKarran) King, the former having been born in New Hampshire and the latter in Ireland. The mother was reared in Scotland, where she was taken in her early youth. They spent their early married life in Buffalo, N. Y., and in 1844, the year of the birth of their son, Charles, they removed to Wisconsin, where the father engaged in the mercantile business in Waukesha county. He went overland to California in 1852 and returned to Wisconsin in 1855, passing away at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife died at the age of thirty-eight. They had six children, Charles being the oldest. It is interesting to note that the ancestors of the King family came over in the Mayflower, there being three brothers—John, William and James King. Charles F. King received his early education in the public schools of Merton, Wis. He enlisted in the Civil war, February, 1864, in the Third Wisconsin Cavalry. For three months he was a bugler, then entered the ranks, became corporal and then sergeant, and was retired second lieutenant of Company L, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, receiving an honorable discharge October 28, 1865. He returned to Wisconsin for two months and then tried life on the western plains of Kansas, where he took up a claim and worked vigorously for three years. Again returning to Wisconsin, he began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. Loomis, of Merton, later entering the Rush Medical College, at Chicago, where he graduated on February 29, 1873. He was in the same class with the famous Dr. Millard and was at Chicago during the great fire. In 1873 he came to Hudson and entered

into partnership with Dr. Otis Hoyt for a period of eight years. Later he went to Mandan, now North Dakota, where he was division surgeon for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, having the territory between Jamestown, N. D., and Glendive, Mont. He was made territorial superintendent of public health for the territory of Dakota. Resigning from this position, he returned to Hudson in 1887, where he has since continued the practice of medicine and surgery with great success. He is at present local surgeon for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, and has served in that capacity since 1888. He was surgeon of the Fourth Wisconsin Infantry in the Spanish-American war and remained with his regiment until the close of the hostilities. He is a past commander of the E. A. Clapp Post, G. A. R.; was nine years commander of St. Croix Commandery, No. 14, Knights Templar; a member of the state guards since 1893, and captain of the hospital department of that body except during the late war, when he held the rank of major. Dr. King was married, May 18, 1875, to Ella F. Hoyt, daughter of Dr. Otis and Eliza B. (King) Hoyt, of Hudson. They have four children. Lucile is the wife of F. F. Harding, of Porto Rico. Otis H. lives in Hudson, where he is a dentist. Lila is the wife of Henry W. Dooley, of Porto Rico, and Amos is a student at the University of Minnesota. Dr. King is known far and near as a man of great ability and much skill. The confidence that he enjoys is shown by the fact that he has been health officer of Hudson for several years. In addition to the honors already mentioned, he is one of the popular past exalted rulers of the Elks, a past master of St. Croix Lodge, No. 56, F. & A. M., and an active member of St. Croix Chapter, No. 44, R. A. M.

**Peter Kircher** first saw the light of day February 22, 1838, at Hassen, Germany. He was one of a family of three—two boys and one girl—all of whom came to America. His father, John A., followed farming until his death in 1872. Upon coming to this country, October, 1853, at the age of fifteen years, Peter Kircher worked in Rochester, N. Y., for four years. He located in Hudson, May 30, 1857, and spent four years learning the trade of mason, which he has since followed. He enlisted in Company D, Thirtieth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, August 11, 1862, and served three years until honorably discharged, September 21, 1865. His brave record as sergeant under Captain Fulton and Captain Otis in Col. D. J. Dill's regiment will not soon be forgotten. In December, 1869, he was married to Margaret Kempf, who died June 20, 1903. Her father, John Kempf, was the leading farmer of Kempf's Farms, Stillwater, Washington county, Minn., where he lived and died. On an eighty-acre farm purchased in 1872 Mr. Kircher sunk a 238-foot drilled well. In

1875 he bought forty acres more, and to this in 1880 he added forty acres in St. Joseph township. Upon all this land he made the improvements. Besides this, he built and still owns three beautiful residences on Second avenue, Hudson. He is a Democrat in politics. For nine years he was an alderman of the city of Hudson, and he has been an influential member of Clapp Post, No. 151, G. A. R., and the I. O. O. F. for a long period. He has four children—John E., married to Bell Ross, carries on his father's business; Frank J. and George A. are students at the University of Minnesota; Elizabeth keeps house for her father. Mr. Kircher is respected and honored by all who know him.

**Laurence P. Mayer,** physician and surgeon of Hudson, was born in Houston county, Minnesota, July 18, 1875, son of Anthony and Beatrice (Von Hoff) Mayer, natives of Germany. They came to the United States in the fifties and located first in Dubuque, Ia., where the father followed lumbering on the Mississippi for many years. They moved later to Minnesota, and the father died in 1878 at the age of fifty-one years. The mother passed away in 1875. In the family were four children. E. E. Mayer lives in Hudson; F. A. Mayer resides in Bemidji, Minn.; Laurence P. is the fourth son, and C. A. Mayer, deceased, lived in Valley City, N. D. In early life Laurence P. decided to devote his life to the practice of medicine. After attending the public schools at Farmington, Minn., he entered the High School, and upon graduation from that institution he took a course in the Hamline University. His medical education was received in the medical department of the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis, from which he graduated in 1900. Soon after graduation he took up the practice of medicine in Hudson, where he has since continued. He has a large practice, which is constantly growing. Dr. Mayer is a member of the State Medical Society, secretary of the St. Croix Medical Society, also a member of the State Board of Health and Vital Statistics. To the latter position he was first appointed by Governor LaFollett and later by Governor Davidson. He was a delegate to the American International Congress of Tuberculosis, held in New York in 1906, and a delegate from the state of Wisconsin to the American Public Health Association, comprising the United States, Dominion of Canada, Cuba and Mexico, held in Mexico City, Mexico, in 1906. In 1908 he was a delegate to the National Charities convention, held at Richmond, Va. Dr. Mayer has entered the local arena of politics and for eight years has served as a member of the Republican county committee. In a fraternal way he associates with the Elks and has been secretary of the local lodge for six years. He is also enrolled in a number of insurance orders. He was married May 19, 1908, to Laura Sophia, daughter

of Joseph and Mary Hochstien, of Hudson. Dr. Mayer is widely known and well liked, and not only enjoys the confidence of the people of Hudson, but has also been honored with the esteem of the gentlemen of his own profession, not only in Hudson, but also at the various conventions that he has attended.

**John W. Muncy,** master car-builder for the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad at Hudson, is a native of Ohio, born September 17, 1854, son of Henry and Mary (Mitchell) Muncy, who came to Menominee, Wis., from their home in Ohio in the early sixties. John W. was educated in the public schools of Menominee and came to Hudson in 1872, entering the employ of the Omaha railroad shops. He passed through the various departments and branches and his knowledge, technical skill and faithfulness were rewarded in 1901, when he received his present position of master builder. In public life Mr. Muncy has been very prominent. For fifteen years he was alderman of the third ward of Hudson, president of the council several years and mayor of the city in 1907-08. Fraternally he is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the Independent Order of Foresters. He is popular and well liked, admired by his associates, respected by his employers, and honored by the 400 men of whom he has charge. Car building is Hudson's greatest industry. The plant of the Omaha railroad covers a larger area, employs more men, consumes more material, has a larger output and carries a larger pay roll than any other industry in the city. It is said that if the cars turned out each year by this one concern were placed in line they would extend across the state. Work on the freight cars, old and new, represents about 65 per cent of the total production, while the work on passenger equipment represents about 35 per cent. The entire plant is divided into three divisions—the passenger department, the freight department and the foundry. The building which houses the freight car department is equipped with five tracks. The first one is used for the building of trucks, which are afterward removed to one of the other tracks. When the trucks reach their places all the material required for the building of the car is in readiness. This includes all the timber, the wrought and cast iron, lumber, bolts, screws, etc., which have previously been placed along the track. As soon as the freight car is constructed it is taken to the paint department, where it receives the lettering and the numbering. An interesting feature of the operations is the foundry. The entire operation of handling the molten metal and the finished product is by machinery. The only work done by the moulders is modeling and handling the patterns. All kinds of iron castings are made, ranging from the smallest thimble to the largest casting used in construction. The Omaha railroad

bears the distinction of being one of the few roads that build all their own cars. The plant was located in Hudson in 1872, and at that time covered a very small territory. The fast increasing business of the road necessitated many changes, and in 1892 the shops were completely rebuilt, today being the largest in the Northwest. The company pensions all employes after they reach the age of seventy, and the concern has never been known to discharge a man without cause. Mr. Muncy has been with the company over twenty-five years, having started as a common laborer and worked his way up. He now has few equals in his particular line in this part of the United States.

**Harold L. North** is one of the men who stand high in the business circles of Hudson. He is a native of this city, born August 1, 1865, son of Lemuel and Sarah J. (Clark) North, natives of Ohio and New York respectively. The father was born in 1831 and the mother in 1835. They were married at Hudson, Wis., in 1862. The father came to St. Croix county in 1854 and engaged in the mercantile and grain business, continuing for a period of thirty-six years with marked success. He took an interest in public matters and was always one of the moving spirits in every movement that tended toward the improvement and development of Hudson. For several terms he served as mayor of the city and occupied other positions of trust, responsibility and honor. His fraternal affiliations consisted of membership in St. Croix Lodge No. 56, F. & A. M. He passed away September 29, 1890, and his wife is still surviving, making her home in Hudson. This union resulted in two children: Harold L. North and Anita E. North.

Harold L. attended the public schools of Hudson and graduated from the law department of the University of Wisconsin at Madison. After finishing his studies he engaged in the grain business, which his father followed before him. He is now president of the Wisconsin Elevator Company, which operates twelve elevators on the line of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad. When the Bank of Hudson was incorporated Mr. North was elected its president, which position he still holds. He has been alderman of Hudson several terms and belongs to St. Croix Lodge No. 56, F. & A. M.; St. Croix Chapter No. 44, R. A. M. and St. Croix Commandery No. 14, Knights Templar.

**Edgar Nye**, better known as "Bill" Nye, now deceased, was for some time a newspaper man in Hudson. In American literature he ranks among the greatest humorists, having a place with Josh Billings and Eli Perkins as a writer of a certain kind of humor, very popular in his day. He was born in 1846 and came with his parents to the Kinnickinnic valley as a boy. He studied law and practiced for some years in Laramie City, Wyo.,

where he obtained the beginnings of his reputation as a humorist by writing sketches for the Laramie newspaper known as the "Boomerang." Later in life he went east, engaged in several lecture tours and then died. His last few years were a hopeless fight against physical suffering and disease. He was a most lovable character and his death was not only a bereavement to his thousands of friends and admirers, but also a loss of American humor.

**William H. Phipps** is a native of Leamington, England, born January 26, 1846, a son of William and Elizabeth (Tappan) Phipps, both natives of England. The father brought his family to America in 1855, locating first in Milwaukee, Wis. The same year he went to Manitowoc, Wis., where the family resided until the time of the father's death. William H. Phipps remained in that place until 1871, when he received an appointment in the state treasurer's office at Madison. Here he remained three years. In 1875 he was placed in charge of the land grant and subsequently was appointed land commissioner for the North Wisconsin Railroad Company. In April of this year Mr. Phipps came to Hudson to reside. When that company was consolidated with other railroad companies he was appointed land commissioner over the combined land grants. He held this position until May 1, 1894, when he resigned to accept the position of land commissioner of the Northern Pacific Railway Company, with which company he remained ten years. In 1904 he severed his connection with the company and engaged in business for himself, dealing in land and engaging in the manufacture and sale of lumber. In January, 1907, he was elected president of the First National Bank of Hudson, in which institution he had been a director since 1890. June 26, 1873, Mr. Phipps was married to Frances E. Van Bergen, born in Madison, Wis. They have one son, Stephen C., born November 25, 1878, at present engaged in the lumber business. William H. Phipps served as president of the city council of Hudson three years, as mayor three years and as state senator from this district, four years. He is a Republican in politics and has always been foremost in every interest that has tended toward the upbuilding and advancement of the state, county and town. He is a member of St. Croix Lodge No. 56, F. & A. M. and St. Croix Chapter No. 44, Royal Arch Masons. The family are members of the Presbyterian church of Hudson.

**John A. Sandquist,** treasurer and manager of the Hudson Hydraulic Stone Company, was born in Sweden, January 15, 1866. He received a good common school education and after the death of his father, A. W. Sandquist, in 1885, he took charge of the old homestead farm for seven years. In 1891, when he was

twenty-six years of age, he came to America and settled at Minneapolis, Minn., where he entered the employ of the Standard Stone and Sidewalk Company, continuing in this employ for six years. In 1898 he located at Stillwater, Minn., and became a member of the Stillwater Stone Sidewalk Company, being associated with Edward Carlson, under the name of Carlson & Sandquist. The Hudson Hydraulic Stone Company was organized in January, 1908, and Mr. Sandquist was made treasurer and manager. The business has proved a profitable one and now has a wide trade, its products being known far and wide for their durable quality. Mr. Sandquist is a member of the B. P. O. E. and the Modern Woodmen of America. On the 15th day of January, 1898, Mr. Sandquist was married to Lena Brosell, a native of Sweden. They have three children; Elmer W., Laurence A. and Marrman O.

**Robert E. Slaughter** is the son of John and Margaret Slaughter, natives of Canada and Ohio, who came to Stillwater, Minn., in 1881. He was born in Fond du Lac., Wis., in the month of November, 1875. After acquiring the rudiments of an education in the public schools at Stillwater, he attended the Shattuck Military Academy at Fairbault, Minn. He then entered the employ of the East Side Lumber Company at Stillwater in 1892 and so continued for eight years. In 1900 the Central Lumber Company was formed at Hudson, Wis., with H. P. Svendsen as president and Mr. Slaughter as secretary and treasurer, which position he has since continued to occupy. In addition to their Hudson affiliations they have an interest in the Cascade Lumber Company, of North Yakima, in the state of Washington. Mr. Slaughter looks after the Hudson plant while the western business is supervised by Mr. Svendsen.

**Rollin W. Strong** was born at Rolfe, Ia., September 28, 1876, son of Oscar and Elizabeth (Rowen) Strong. He was educated in the public schools of his native town. At the age of twelve years he began to work in a printing office at Garfield, Kan., and two years later he started to learn the printing trade at Belmond, Ia., continuing here until 1899, when he came to Wisconsin and was employed on the "Grantsburg Journal" several months. He then moved to St. Paul, where he lived for four years, being engaged as a reporter on a daily paper. Two years of that time he read proofs on the "Daily Globe." In 1904 he moved to New Richmond, St. Croix county, Wis., and in partnership with A. L. Evans, established the "New Richmond News." Two years later, in 1906, he sold out his interest to his partner and removed to Hudson and purchased a half interest in the "St. Croix Observer" in company with L. B. Nagler, under the firm name of Nagler & Strong, and has since continued very suc-

cessfully. The "Observer," which was established in 1901, is a Republican paper. Mr. Strong was married in 1906 to Jessie May Taft, daughter of E. H. and Nettie Taft. Mrs. Taft's father, William R. Anderson, was the first county clerk of St. Croix county. In 1908 Mr. Strong was elected alderman of the Second ward and has served with great credit.

**Bernice W. Utman,** mayor of Hudson, was born in Ontario, Canada, January 15, 1871, son of Henry and Lavina (Broeffle) Utman, natives of New York state. In later life they removed to California and engaged in farming. The father passed away in 1904 at the age of seventy-five years. Bernice received a good education in the public schools of his native town and then took a business course, removing to California at the age of sixteen years. He spent several years in the Golden Gate state, being employed as an agent for the Union Ice Company. In 1894 he removed to Barron county, Wisconsin, and engaged variously in farming and shipping. In 1903 he engaged in the pickle and sauerkraut business at River Falls, also doing considerable shipping. Two years later he sold his interest in this enterprise and came to Hudson, where he purchased the cold storage plant, later adding a creamery. This concern is the largest cold storage in the valley and does business on an extensive scale. The plant is a brick building 50x120 feet with a creamery 20x60 and an office 20x26. It is quipped with the Cooper brine refrigeration, positive ventilation and a mechanical air circulating system, the best known contrivance for carrying eggs, butter, cheese, apples and the like. It has a capacity of 10,000 cases of eggs, 200,000 pounds of butter and 50,000 pounds of cheese. In connection with their storage business the concern handles apples in car lots in the fall, and after shipping their butter, eggs and the like they refill the storage with apples, having a capacity of 10,000 barrels, which they dispose of before it is time to again fill the place with butter and eggs, thus using the storage the whole year around. Mr. Utman is president of the company, and his experience in the apple and produce business now stands him in good stead. Mr. Utman is an ardent Republican. He was elected mayor of Hudson in the spring of 1908. For many years he was chairman of the Republican county committee of Barron county, Wisconsin, where he formerly resided. He affiliates with the Masons, the I. O. O. F. and the Union Commercial Travelers. July 24, 1894, he was married to Jennie Harper, daughter of L. A. and Mary Harper, of Cumberland, Wis. Four children have blessed this union: Beatrice V., Isabelle M., Leslie H. and George W. Mr. Utman is a clear-headed and capable business man, and his business is constantly growing from year to year.

His election as mayor speaks for itself as to the regard in which he is held by his fellow townsmen.

**Nelson O. Varnum,** of the law firm of Varnum & Anderson, Hudson, Wis., was born in Pepin, Pepin county, Wis., February 16, 1872, son of George and Otilia (Holden) Varnum. His father was born in Butler county, Pennsylvania, February 7, 1839, and his mother was a native of Jefferson county, Pennsylvania, born May 6, 1848. She died October 21, 1881. The father of George Varnum, with his family settled in Pepin county in 1854 and engaged in farming. He, with his wife and one son, died two years later, after which all of his children, except the father of the subject of this sketch, returned to their former home, in Pennsylvania. The father was a musician in the Sixth Wisconsin during the Civil War. He was prominent in his township and served as chairman of the township board, having also held the office of county treasurer. Nelson O. Varnum attended the common schools of his native town, the high school at the village of Pepin and the State Normal school at River Falls, Wis. He taught school several terms and later was elected superintendent of schools of Dunn county, after which he entered the law department of the University of Wisconsin. He was admitted to the bar in 1904, starting practice in Menomonie, Dunn county, Wis., in partnership with E. B. and R. E. Bundy. At the death of Judge Bundy, the firm became Bundy & Varnum, and so continued until 1907, when it was dissolved. Coming to Hudson in September of that year, Mr. Varnum formed a partnership with Albert Anderson, under the firm name of Varnum & Anderson. The firm has already built up a large practice, and both partners are known as able and eloquent attorneys. Mr. Varnum was married September 1, 1897, to Clara Belle Kirk, by whom he has one child, Robert George, born January 1, 1907.

**James H. Walker,** secretary and manager of the St. Croix County Abstract Company, of Hudson, Wis., was born in Wilson, St. Croix county, Wis., to James and Elnora (Fowler) Walker, October 2, 1875. The father, born near Hamilton, Ontario, October 9, 1843, of Scotch-English parentage; the mother was born in Woodstock, Vt., May 23, 1848. They were married in Sparta, Wis., October 16, 1872.

The father was a railroad track-layer, coming to St. Croix county in 1873, when the West Wisconsin railroad was built through to Hudson, and later was in charge of their construction train. He left the employ of the railroad to take charge of the mills of the West Wisconsin Manufacturing Company at Wilson, which position he held until 1893, being compelled to quit on account of losing the use of his limbs. In 1894 he was elected to the office of register of deeds for St. Croix county, to

which office he was reëlected three successive terms, and served until his death, which occurred April 10, 1902. His widow still survives him. The children born to this couple are: James H., George Edwin (born November 14, 1876), Harries E. (born January 14, 1877), and Mary I. (born October 22, 1885). James H. attended the public schools at Wilson, becoming his father's deputy in the office of register of deeds when his father assumed same in 1895. Later he was in charge of the installation of a large abstract plant in Fargo, Cass county, N. Dak., upon the completion of which he became associated with W. E. Webster in the abstract of title business at Hudson. In politics, Mr. Walker is a Republican, and has served as secretary of the Hudson board of trade. Fraternally he is a member of St. Croix Lodge No. 56, F. & A. M., St. Croix Chapter No. 44, R. A. M. and St. Croix Commandery No. 14, Knights Templar, the Woodmen of the World and the Independent Order of Foresters. October 30, 1900, he married Mary L. Holmes, who was born in Hudson, Wis., May 24, 1873, daughter of Orville W. and Mary (Beard) Holmes. The father, born in Ogdensburg, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., August 3, 1830. The mother, born in Peignton, Devonshire, England, April 7, 1840. They were married in Hudson, Wis., November 7, 1867. The children born to this couple were: Edna M., now deceased; Roswell B. and Mrs. James H. Walker. Mr. and Mrs. James H. Walker are the parents of three children: James H., born February 18, 1904; Helen D., born November 17, 1905, and Marion F., born December 9, 1907. Mr. Walker is an accomplished business man and his honor and integrity have won for him the regard of all with whom he has had dealings of any sort.

**Waldo E. Webster,** now engaged in the real estate and abstract business in Hudson city, is a native of Pleasant Valley, this county, born March 6, 1859, son of Alba and Ann Delutia (Morgan) Webster, natives of Haverhill, Mass., and Brockport, N. Y., the father, born February 22, 1828; the mother, born June 2, 1820. They were married at Vernon, Waukesha county, Wis., March 16, 1850, and in 1855 went to Pleasant Valley, this county, where they bought a claim and made a number of changes and improvements. The old home, which he first built and in which his children were born, is still standing on the farm. In 1882 they moved to Hammond, in the same county. In 1881 Alba Webster was one of the incorporators of the First National Bank of Glenwood, Minn. He was elected president, in which capacity he served during the remainder of his life. He was also one of the incorporators of the Bank of Hammond, Wis., in 1892, and served as vice president and director until his death, October 7, 1907, at the ripe old age of seventy-nine. The mother

died in October, 1899. They were the parents of four children: Elbert M., of Glenwood, Minn.; Daniel D., of River Falls, Wis.; Waldo E., the subject of this sketch, and Union M., of Stockton, Cal. Waldo E. was educated in the public schools, at Hinkley Institute, River Falls, and at Beloit college. He spent his early life on the farm and continued there until he made up his mind to enter the local arena of politics. In 1890 he was elected clerk of the Circuit court and was twice reëlected, serving for a period of six years. He then took up the abstract, real estate, loan and insurance business in a well-equipped office at Hudson. His wide acquaintance in the county made him well adapted for this business, and his success was insured from the very start. In 1906 he started a real estate office in Seattle, Wash., and does a large business in both his establishments. In addition to conducting his large business, Mr. Webster is president of the State Bank at Deer Park, and a director of the Security State Bank of Baldwin, Wis., both solid financial institutions of this county; president of the Webster-Lowry Investment Company, of Seattle, Wash.; of the Star-Times Publishing Company, of Hudson, Wis., and of the St. Croix County Abstract Company.

Fraternally Mr. Webster is a member of the I. O. O. F. and of the Foresters, and politically he is a Republican, having been a delegate to the Republican state convention in 1904, and taking no little part in its proceedings. March 29, 1882, he was married to Eliza M., daughter of James and Mary (Brennan) Gray, of Kinnickinnic township, this county. She was born July 21, 1861. James Gray was born in Durham county, England, September 10, 1821. The mother was born in Ottawa, Canada, May 11. 1832. They were married at Green Bay, Wis., June 10, 1852, and came to River Falls, Wis., in June, 1861. In 1870 he bought a farm in Kinnickinnic township, St. Croix county, where he remained until 1896. He then retired from active life and spent his remaining days in River Falls, Wis. His demise occurred February 13, 1906. The mother is living (1908) in Seattle, Wash. James Gray was twice married, first in England. One daughter was born, Mrs. Henry Curry. From the second marriage ten children were born, nine of whom are living: Mrs. F. C. Matteson (deceased); Rev. William J. Gray, of Merriam Park, Minn.; Dr. Frank F. Gray, of North Yakima, Wash.; Mrs. Harry S. Matteson, of Hudson, Wis.; Mrs. W. E. Webster, of Hudson, Wis.; John B., of Minneapolis, Minn.; Charles B., of Seattle, Wash.; Mrs. Owen B. Playter, of Seattle, Wash.; Henry N., of Sweet, Idaho, and George B., of Rupert, Idaho. Mr. and Mrs. Waldo E. Webster have six children, five of whom are living. They are: Wendel P., born February 2, 1883; Ralph W., born June 1, 1885, died June 13, 1889; Nina M., born December 29,

1887; Elbert M., William B., twins, born January 30, 1890, and Charles E., born July 21, 1892. Mr. Webster is a public-spirited citizen, and a hustling, progressive business man, always a leader in any movement that has for its object the promotion of the business interests of the city or township.

## HUDSON TOWNSHIP.

The name given to this town was Buena Vista. It was organized in the spring of 1849. Laid off by act of the board of county commissioners at a meeting held at the house of Philip Aldrich, February 28, of the same year. The name of Buena Vista was suggested by the late Joel Foster, at the time it was laid out. He had just come to the settlement, and had been in the battle of Buena Vista. The excitement over the victory made it a popular name, and it was accordingly adopted. By an act of the legislature in the winter of 1851, the name of the town and all villages therein were changed to Willow River, under which title it remained until November 9, 1852, when by petition of the citizens, it was changed to Hudson. Hudson township is composed of rich, rolling farm land; is drained by the Willow river, and crossed by several railroads. The township is bounded by St. Joseph, Warren and Troy townships and St. Croix lake, and covers an erea of 19,435 acres, valued at $23.46 an acre, making an aggregate of $456,000, outside of the city. There are in the township, outside of the city, 400 horses, valued at $24,000; 1,370 neat cattle, valued at $19,180; 1,200 sheep and lambs, valued at $3,600; 650 swine, valued at $3.250; the value of all real estate being $509,200; of personal property, $70,500, making a total of $579,700. Aside from the city of Hudson there are several stations, and settlements in various parts of the township.

Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in Hudson township in 1908: Wheat, 56; corn, 752; oats. 1,818; barley, 428; rye, 108; flaxseed, 10; potatoes, 60; other crops, 10; cultivated hay, 3,337. There are four acres of strawberries.

**Christian Burkhardt,** to whom the village of Burkhardt will remain a perpetual monument for generations to come, is one of those men whose energy and ability have contributed so greatly to the growth and development of the industrial interests of the St. Croix valley. He was born in the town of Reichenbach, in the famous Black Forest district of the Kingdom of Württemberg, Germany, September 26, 1834, son of Christian and Barbara (Eilber) Burkhardt, who lived and died in Germany. The former was a millwright, and thoroughly trained his son in that trade. At the agé of twenty years Christian came to America and went to work at Buffalo, N. Y., where he was employed at his trade by John T. Noye. When, in 1856, he went to work on a mill at

Warsaw, Ill.; in 1857 went to work on mills in Illinois and Iowa, working at his trade. He then followed his trade in Chicago and vicinity for three years, and in 1862 entered into partnership with his brother in an enterprise known as the Buffalo Farina Mills at, Buffalo, N. Y. It was during this connection that he became interested in Wisconsin, and in 1868 he came to this state and located at Hudson. He at once started a mill on the situation of his present large plant. This was burned in 1887, entailing a loss of $40,000. Undaunted by this disaster, he commenced to build the one which now bears his name. This plant is fully equipped with all the latest machinery and up-to-date appliances. It has an elevator and planing mill, and its capacity is 275 barrels a day when it is in full operation. During the erection of this plant he bought an interest in the Willow River Milling Company, at Hudson, Wis.; was manager of the mills in the year 1888, and soon afterward became sole proprietor of this plant, which was turned into an electric light and power plant. In addition to this Mr. Burkhardt has built two sawmills, one at Black Brook and the other at Richardson, Wis., now known as Marsh Lake, in partnership with Math. Hall, of St. Paul, under the firm name of Hall & Burkhardt. They operated these mills for a short time, employing as high as 100 men the year around. In October, 1907, Mr. Burkhardt had his interests incorporated under the firm name of the Burkhardt Milling and Electric Power Company, of which he is president and general manager. This company owns the mills at Burkhardt and the electric plant at Hudson. Mr. Burkhardt also owns the old Boardman mill, not now in operation, and 1,000 acres of land in St. Croix county. Mr. Burkhardt was married in 1861 to Ernstine Beer, a sister of Julius Beer, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Burkhardt, deceased, was a lady of many accomplishments and was a worthy helpmeet of her husband's in all his endeavors. Twelve children have blessed this union, ten living: Louisa, married to Godfred Lewerer, who attends to his father-in-law's agricultural interests; Franz P., who is in charge of the flour mill and has also proven himself an able man in the office; Augusta, who is in California; Bertha, who is declared by her father to be the best bookkeeper he has ever had in his office, and who has the details of her father's business at her finger tips; Ida, who has just spent a winter in California; Lina, who works in the office; Emma, who is Mrs. Kessel, of Merriam Park, St. Paul, and Elfrieda, Esther and Helene, who live at home. Mr. Burkhardt is a strong Republican and has served the town in several capacities, being on the town board in his earlier days, although he has been too busy with his work to seek political honors to any great extent. For forty years he was a member of the

Masonic fraternity. The family faith is that of the English Lutheran denomination, and all the children have been confirmed at Stillwater, Minn. The subject of this sketch is a self-made man. He came to this country poor, and worked as a day laborer, even working for as low a wage as 75 cents a day and furnishing his own tools. Although he has achieved financial success he has not forgotten that there are other things besides money that go to make up success in life, and he has not only given all his children a good education, but has also spent considerable time in travel. Three times he has visited his old home in Germany and he was present during the earthquake at San Francisco, having many interesting stories to tell of this disaster. Although now past the allotted three score years and ten, Mr. Burkhardt is hale and hearty and looks after his business with energy and ability that is the envy of many a younger man.

**Charles W. Bradley** was born in St. Croix Falls, Polk county, Wis., February 2, 1860, son of T. M. and Margaret (Wilson) Bradley, the former being a native of Armah, Ireland. The parents were married at Osceola, Wis., to which place they emigrated in the '50s, and lived there two years, thence going to St. Croix Falls, and some time thereafter returning to Osceola. In 1868 they moved to Hudson, where the father took up land, which, with the assistance of his sons, he broke and partly cultivated. Charles W. received a common school education, and then started farming, which he has made his life's work. His 160 acres are all in an advanced stage of cultivation. Aside from doing diversified farming he breeds short horn cattle, Poland China hogs and Shropshire sheep. The barns and other buildings are roomy and modern, while the house is large, comfortable and well furnished. Jane, daughter of John and Sarah (Kelley) Hodgin, became his wife in 1892 at Hudson. Her father was a brick mason and farmer. He is widely known as a successful and up-to-date farmer. Mr. Bradley is much interested in the history of the valley and several documents and books in his possession throw some interesting light on the life of the early days.

**A. R. Dailey** is another of those descendants from the early pioneers, who have followed in their fathers' footsteps. He was born in Hudson, in August, 1861, the son of Guy and Mary (Cook) Dailey, who settled in North Hudson on a farm after coming from Canada in 1850. Guy Dailey held a number of town offices and was a member of the assembly of 1876-1877. Both he and his wife died in Hudson township. A. R. Dailey received an excellent education in the public and high schools of Hudson, then took up farming. He owns 240 acres, 225 of which are highly improved, largely the result of his own efforts.

He is said to have one of the finest places in Hudson township, and strangers never fail to notice its pretty appearance. He carries on a general farming, and deals in cattle, buying and shipping large quantities of stock of all descriptions. For some time he conducted a dairy business. Mr. Dailey is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the A. S. of E. and has served as town clerk. In 1889 he married Minnie, daughter of Harry and Lucy Oakes. The sorrow of Mr. and Mrs. Dailey's lives was the loss of their only son, Harry, a bright little chap of fourteen years. Their spacious house is not far from the city of Hudson, and both the house and the other buildings are models of what farm buildings should be like. Mr. Dailey takes great pride in his farm and in the quality of his stock. His aim is to have one of the best kept farms in the county and in this he is succeeding wonderfully well.

**C. E. Holden** is a native of New Brunswick, Canada, born June 17, 1855, being the youngest of a family of seven children, all of whom are still living. His parents, N. S. and Lucretia (McDiarmed) Holden, came to Hudson in 1858. N. S. Holden was a surveyor, and worked at this profession in all parts of the state. He died on the second day of July, 1882. C. E. Holden received his education in the public schools and at the Hudson Academy, afterward acquiring 400 acres of land, a part of which is in Hudson township, the remainder in Warren. These acres, which at that time were wild, have all been cleared and a spacious house and buildings erected thereon by Mr. Holden, and under his personal supervision. He has made a special study of agriculture and does a general farming business. On the 13th day of December, 1882, Mr. Holden was married to Lucy Helen, daughter of William Virtue, one of the early Irish settlers of the state. Like his father, Mr. Holden had seven children. The four living are Lilah, who attends the Appleton University; Irving, a student at the Hudson High school and Earl and Charles, who are at home. Mr. Holden is a Bryan Democrat, and is a member of the Woodmen and the Foresters. That he enjoys the confidence of his fellow citizens is shown by the fact that he has been chairman of the town of Hudson for eighteen years. He has also been chairman of the county board, school clerk and assessor. Mr. Holden is regarded as an authority on agricultural matters, and his opinions on these subjects are eagerly sought by his associates.

**John Hodgin** is one of the seven children of Henry and Susan (Stuart) Hodgin. Of these one daughter and three sons live in Hudson, a son died some years ago, and the rest remain in Canada, where John was born on the 1st day of August, 1833. His father was a native of Newcastle, England, and learned the

trade of bricklaying. Upon coming to Canada, he followed this trade until the time of his death. For several years he was a member of the school board there. John Hodgin went to the common schools of Canada and then worked five years for his father. Upon coming to Hudson, in 1855, he worked at lumbering and teaming for twelve years. In 1857 he purchased forty acres of land in Hudson township and then increased this with 200 acres more. This tract he developed and improved, erecting all the buildings. The brick in the beautiful mansion on the property were laid entirely by Mr. Hodgin himself. For twenty years his principal crops were wheat and oats, but since 1887 he has made a specialty of raising graded Jersey cattle and Poland China hogs. Mr. Hodgin has not been an office seeker, but found time to serve on the school board several terms in the early '80s. He is a staunch Republican. During the war he served in the Wisconsin Regulars under Captain Peabody and was honorably discharged at Milwaukee. Mr. Hodgin was married May 22, 1857, to Sarah, daughter of John and Frances (Johnson) Kelley, who came from Canada in 1852 and followed farming in Hudson until the time of their deaths. Mr. and Mrs. Hodgin were blessed with eight children: Susan, wife of Samuel Johnson, a Canadian farmer; William R., who conducts a grocery store at Northline, Hudson township; Fannie, deceased; Jane, married to C. W. Bradley; Harriet, wife of William Johnson, a prominent North Dakota lumber and coal dealer; John E., who is at home; Sarah, married to Albert Guse, of Hudson; Margaret, married to John Williams, a general storekeeper at Baudette, and Addie, who died at eight years. John E. conducts his father's farm, and is married to Bertha Dunbar. Their daughter, Jane Hazel, attends the public schools. The farm is conducted along up-to-date lines and shows prosperity in every acre.

**David Labarge** has achieved success in life by hard labor, which he still continues, although he has reached the age of seventy-one years. His parents, Francis and Katherine (Quarie) Labarge, lived and died in Canada. They had five children, two boys and three girls. David worked in a sawmill at Fond du Lac, Wis., in 1856, and then took up logging on the river and resided at Stillwater, Minn., for fifteen years. To eight acres of land at Burkhardt, purchased in 1873, he quickly added 152 more. Later he bought 160 acres at East Grand Forks, Polk county, Minn. His farm land has been well improved and cultivated. Aside from general farming, he raises Short Horn cattle and Poland China hogs. In 1857 he married Katherine Johnson. By this union he has eight children: Alice, Lucy, Lizzie, wife of Will Harrison, of Duluth; Edward and Earnest, Minnesota farmers; Frank and Pullin, North Dakota farmers, and Harry, who

lives at home. Mr. Labarge owns a large house and takes much interest in the affairs of the county and its early history. During the years he has been in the valley he has watched its wonderful growth and has seen to it that the improvements on his property have kept pace with those of his neighbors. The family are communicants of the Catholic church.

**George Martin** has a record of continual residence upon one farm since 1860. He was a boy of thirteen years of age when, in 1852, his parents, William and Emelie Martin decided to leave Steuben county, in New York state, and locate in Wisconsin. His parents took up school land and started farming. After several years they abandoned this work and went to live with George, who was their only child. George Martin has brought his 400 acres of land to a high stage of cultivation. At one time he was known for forty miles around as an extensive buyer of grain, stock, cattle and hogs. To him belongs the distinction of having fenced the railroad from the lakes to Baldwin. In 1860 he was married to Margaret M. Ainsley, whose parents came from Geneva, N. Y., in 1853, and conducted agricultural operations until the time of their death. Mrs. Martin died in 1903.

**William Virtue** was born in Donegal, Ireland, September 15, 1833, of Scotch parentage. His father and mother were born in Scotland, where they lived and raised a family of six boys, afterward moving to Ireland, where they passed away at the ages of seventy-three and eighty-five respectively. William Virtue, the seventh and youngest of the sons, was born in Ireland, in which country he received his boyhood education. He came to America when a mere boy, remaining for a time in the states of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, afterward coming to Wisconsin in the early '50s. He secured a grant of land in Hudson township, St. Croix county, in 1857. The grant was signed by President Buchanan, on April 1, of that year, and the document still remains in the family as a valued and highly prized keepsake, whose worth will increase with the passing of years. Mr. Virtue received his citizenship papers May 11, 1874. Shortly after locating here he married Bridget O'Brien, who had come from Ireland a few years previous. By this union there were six children, four of whom are still living. They are: Mrs. C. E. Holden, of Hudson township; W. E. Virtue (deceased), Lillian Virtue, Katherine S. Virtue, Mrs. E. A. Bixby and Agnes Virtue (deceased). Mr. Virtue continued farming during his lifetime. He never sought public office, but consistently voted the Democratic ticket. He died December 21, 1895, in the faith of the Presbyterian church, of which he was a member. His wife, also now deceased, was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic

church, at Hudson. Mr. Virtue was highly thought of throughout the community, and his family occupies an important position in the business and general social life of the township.

## KINNICKINNIC TOWNSHIP.

Kinnickinnic township is one of the southern tier of St. Croix county townships, and is bordered by Troy, Warren and Pleasant Valley townships and Pierce county. The residence portions of the city of River Falls overrun their incorporated limits and extend to some extent into this township. The township originally included nine towns of townships 27 and 28 from St. Croix lake, running eastward. By the setting off of Pierce county, the townships in township 27 were stricken off and since then the town has been reduced until it now includes township 28, range 18. It is a rich agricultural country, and its surface is divided between undulating prairie and high hills. The Kinnickinnic, a beautiful stream with beautiful scenery, drains the township from the northeast and the famous monument, already mentioned, is in the center of the township. Among the first settlers were W. B. and James A. Mapes, who arrived in the fall of 1849. Duncan McGregor spent that same winter with Judge Foster, and in the fall of 1850, Ira Parks and family settled on land adjoining the Mapes farm. Among other early settlers were Dr. Whipple, Mrs. Sprague, Lorenzo Dagget, Mrs. Josephus Medley, Luke and Frank Pomeroy, J. G. Crowns, James Penn, William Tozer, James Chinnock, Elisha Walden, Alanson Day, John Scott, W. L. and J. E. Perrin, Mrs. Lynch and others. The first couple married was James A. Mapes and Catherine Scott. The present township covers 22,938 acres, having an average value of $25.58. There are in the township 484 horses, valued at $29,100; 1,500 neat cattle, valued at $21,000; 2,180 sheep and lambs, valued at $6,850; 370 swine, valued at $1,850; total value of real estate, $586,900; total value of personal property, $67,000, making a grand total of $653,900. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in Kinnickinnic township in 1908: Wheat, 190; oats, 4,738; corn, 2,905; barley, 1,744; rye, 681; flaxseed, 354; potatoes, 319; cultivated hay, 2,078. There are 909 acres of standing timber and 263 bearing apple trees.

**Emilus Prescott Cole** was born in Chenango county, New York, March 29, 1822, and has lived in the state of Wisconsin ever since twenty years of age. His father, Ira Cole, came to Walworth county, Wisconsin, in 1843, and with Emilus purchased a farm near Portland. During the next ten years he worked on adjoining farms, and on June 10, 1852, married Miss

Caroline B. Southworth, of Walworth county, Wisconsin. Three children resulted from the union, two of whom, Mrs. Oresta S. Robinson and Edwin P. Cole, are living. E. P. Cole, Sr., came to St. Croix county, Wisconsin, in 1865, settling on his present farm in section 16, of Kinnickinnic township, where he has since resided, and belongs to the Republican party. He held the office of township assessor for fourteen consecutive years. Edwin P. Cole, Jr., was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, April 30, 1864, and was brought to St. Croix county by his parents when sixteen months old. He received his education in the public schools of Kinnickinnic township, and at the State Normal school at River Falls, Wis. After leaving school, remained at home until attaining his majority, when he removed to Mendota, Wis., where he was employed by the state for some time in connection with the State hospital at that place. He resigned to return home, where he has since resided. Mr. Cole was married on February 22, 1898, to Mary E. Carley, a daughter of George Carley, of River Falls, Wis., and they are the parents of one daughter, Eva. He is a stockholder in the American Society of Equity Elevator Company, of River Falls, and has held the position of school treasurer for eighteen years. He is a member of the Congregational church.

**Charles John Everson** was born in Norway on March 25, 1866, and came to America with his parents, Andrew and Johanna Johnson Everson, during the same year. He received his education in the public schools of Kinnickinnic township and remained with his parents until attaining his majority. He has followed the occupation of a farmer all his life. March 24, 1896, saw him united in marriage with Miss Hattie Zillmer, a daughter of Gustav and Minnie Zillmer, who has borne him three children: Myrtle Irene, Ralph Wallace and Charles William Everson, and they are eleven, nine and seven years of age respectively. Charles, like his brother Julius, attends the services of the Congregational church, and is also a member of the American Society of Equity of Wisconsin. While giving intelligent attention to public affairs Mr. Everson never has been closely identified with political parties, but is nominally a Republican. He has recently purchased a fine farm of 300 acres, over one-half of which is tilled, and the remainder utilized as hay land and pasture.

**Julius E. Everson** is regarded as one of the most prosperous and best known farmers in Kinnickinnic township, conducting with the assistance of his sons, a tract of 480 acres. Mr. Everson might be also considered a native of the township, being brought here from Norway by his parents when only two years old. He was born January 27, 1863, in Norway and his parents,

Andrew and Johanna Everson, arrived in Kinnickinnic township in 1865, where they lived until their death. Julius was educated in the public schools near his home, and remained at home until his marriage to Amanda Gilstead, a daughter of Andrew A. Gilstead, one of the first settlers in Pleasant Valley township. They were married in 1889, and are the parents of five children, bestowing upon them the names of Arthur A., John M., Agnes J., Henry M. and George D. Everson. Mr. Everson belongs to the Congregational church, of which he is a regular attendant. He is a votary of Republicanism, but has never attempted to assume the role of a politician. He has held the position of school clerk, and is at present the director of the board. He is not a member of any order, excepting the American Society of Equity. He has 300 acres under cultivation, which is partially devoted to raising feed for his large flock of sheep, of which he makes a specialty, marketing several thousand pounds of wool annually, as well as farm fattened mutton.

**Lacy Cerril Hill** is a native of the St. Croix valley, having been born in Warren Township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, May 25, 1863. He is the son of Cerril and Sarah Anderson Hill, who came to Hudson from New York city, in 1856. He was one of the oldest settlers in Warren township, acquiring his farm by entry in the United States government land office, selecting 240 acres in sections 33 and 34 of Warren township. Sarah Anderson Hill died in Warren in 1869, and in 1872 the father of this sketch was married to Miss Maria Grant, of Kinnickinnic township, who died in 1874. In 1876 Cerril Hill married Miss Mercy Root, of Star Prairie township. He was a member of the Baptist church and generally voted the Democratic ticket. He was an extensive raiser of shorthorn cattle and was until his death in great demand at live stock shows and agricultural exhibits as a judge of fine cattle. He was born in New York state, October 1, 1826, and died July 22, 1891, being struck by lightning while returning home from the harvest field. Lacy Cerril Hill received his education in the Warren district schools and remained at the home of his parents until after becoming of age. He then rented a farm, which he conducted for a number of years, and spending his winters in the lumber camps in the northern part of the state. In 1892 he was married to Lucy Hamilton, a daughter of John Hamilton, of Kinnickinnic township, and they are the parents of five children, upon whom they bestowed the names of Cerril, Amelia, Hattie, Mary and Rufus. Lacy C. Hill inherited his political beliefs from his father, but has never taken an active part in political affairs. He purchased his present farm in section 22, of Kinnickinnic township, in 1893, and since 1895 it has been the family residence.

**Francis Lovell** has been a resident of the state of Wisconsin ever since his arrival in America. He was born in Elmswell, Yorkshire, England, November 26, 1833. His parents were Richard and Sarah (Pickering) Lovell. Francis attended the schools of the eastern part of Yorkshire during his youth, and while not thus engaged, shared with his father the vigilant watch of the shepherd. Francis Lovell emigrated to America in 1851, coming directly from Castle Garden to Beloit, Rock county, Wis., where he remained until the following year, when he made a visit of inspection of the St. Croix valley, visiting all parts of it, but returned to Rock county, where he lived until 1855, when he removed to Pierce county. He settled on the south fork of the Kinnickinnic river and resided there until 1863, when he removed to his present farm, where he still resides. He was married in 1856 to Mary I. Lord, of Greenfield, Me., born August 3, 1831, the daughter of Tobias and Mary Fowler Lord. They are the parents of eight children, all of whom are living. The names are: Alvan Henry Lovell, of River Falls; Edwin Herbert Lovell, of Grand Forks, N. Dak.; George Arthur Lovell, of Eddy county, North Dakota; Mrs. Kate Ida Wilcox, of Gilby, N. Dak.; Mrs. Mary A. Wilcox, of Clayton, Wis.; Mrs. Melinda Elliott, of River Falls, Wis.; Mrs. Frances Maud Harlen, of River Falls, Wis., and Charles R. Lovell, of Currinsville, Ore.

Mr. Lovell is not a communicant of any religious denomination, and is also independent in political matters. He has never cared for public preferment, but as the father of a large family of children, has always been interested in educational affairs, and held the office of school director for upwards of twenty years. He owns a farm of 240 acres, of which 100 acres is devoted to the raising of small grain.

**Henry O'Brien** is a native of St. Croix county, having been born at Cylon on June 9, 1863, his parents being Andrew and Margaret Tarpy O'Brien. He was one of thirteen children, all of whom are at present living in St. Croix county, with the exception of Michael J. O'Brien, who resides in Kalispell, Mont. Andrew O'Brien, the father, came to America when a young man and settled, in 1875, on the farm in Kinnickinnic township, which the subject of this sketch now owns and where he at present resides. Andrew O'Brien died in Hammond in 1891 and his wife died in 1894. Henry O'Brien was educated in the public schools of St. Croix county. He has followed the life of a farmer ever since leaving school. Mr. O'Brien was married in May, 1887, to Miss Lucy Caffrey, the daughter of John Caffrey, of Hammond, and they are the parents of three children: Charles R., Lucy A. and Mary E. O'Brien, all of whom are at home. The O'Brien family attends the devotions of the Roman Catholic

church. Mr. O'Brien is a firm believer in the principles of the Democratic party, but has rigidly avoided office holding all his life with the exception of local school offices, which he has held at different times. He is greatly interested in educational affairs and believes in doing his share in promoting the best interests of the public schools.

**Chris Peterson** was born in Denmark, December 17, 1846, where he was educated and remained until twenty-one years of age, when he came to America, first settling in Jefferson, Wis., where he remained two years before coming to St. Croix county. In 1872 Mr. Peterson purchased his present farm in section 10 of Kinnickinnic township. In April, 1873, Mr. Peterson was married to Miss Christina Benson, of Pleasant Valley, who died in 1884. They were the parents of two sons, Ben and Henry Peterson. Ben Peterson is now a resident of McKenzie county, North Dakota, where he owns a farm. Henry Peterson was born June 12, 1882, and received his education in the public schools of Kinnickinnic township. He has assisted his father in conducting the farm since leaving school.

**Clinton Williams** is universally regarded by his fellow townsmen as not only among the first settlers in Kinnickinnic township, but as its most prominent citizen. He was born in Angelica, Allegheny county, N, Y., July 21, 1831, of Welsh ancestry. His parents were Simon and Anstine Stirling Williams, who brought Clinton to the state of Indiana, when he was two years old and where they remained until he was fourteen years old, and his early education was received in the primitively organized seats of instruction in the Hoosier state. They emigrated to Rock county, Wisconsin, where the subject of this sketch finished his education. After leaving school Mr. Williams engaged in the freighting business between the port of Milwaukee and the inland towns of Janesville and Beloit, and followed it for eight years, when he became interested in railroad grading as a contractor and spent one year in that business. In 1853 Mr. Williams was united in the bonds of holy matrimony to Henrietta M. Beardsley, a daughter of Samuel A. and Maria M. Luce Beardsley, of Beloit, Wis. Samuel A. Beardsley was a native of the state of Connecticut, and Maria M. Luce was born in Ithaca, N. Y. Three days after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Williams left Rock county for Kinnickinnic township via Galena and Mississippi river steamboat to Prescott, thence to their present home, where they have resided ever since, and where all of their children were born. They are the parents of three children. George A. Williams, who is engaged in the real estate business in the city of St. Paul; Carrie A., now the wife of Lute Dodge, a newspaper man connected with a St. Paul paper, and Roswell

S. Williams, a graduate in chemistry at the State Normal school in River Falls, and at present located there as a druggist. In politics Mr. Williams has always been a consistent Republican in national affairs, but in local matters the candidates with the best qualifications for the place they seek receive his support. He has held many offices during his long residence in St. Croix county, notwithstanding the fact that he has always rigidly refused to be a candidate for public favor.

## PLEASANT VALLEY TOWNSHIP.

Pleasant Valley township is another of the southern tier of townships in St. Croix county. It occupies the western half of township 28, range 17, and is bounded by Kinnickinnic, Hammond and Rush River townships and Pierce county. It is drained by the head waters of the Kinnickinnic, abounds in rich farms and has one village, known as Pleasant Valley village. The first settlement was made in the fall of 1856. Among the early settlers were Sheldon Gray, Asa Gray, S. W. Mattison and Allen Webster. The town was organized March 30, 1857, with Peleg Burdick as chairman. The first school was taught in 1857 by Mary Munson. A postoffice was established in 1866 with Peter Hawkins as postmaster. The township has 11,512 acres with an average valuation of $35.97, the land being both rich and productive. There are in the township 325 horses, valued at $19,500; 950 neat cattle, valued at $13,300; 730 sheep and lambs, valued at $2,190; 170 swine valued at $850; total value of real estate, $414,100; personal property valued at $44,900; grand total, $459,000. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in Pleasant Valley township, in 1908: Wheat, 57; corn, 359; oats, 367; barley, 747; rye, 46; flaxseed, 322; apples, 1½ acres, with 144 trees; hay, 2,674; standing timber, 153.

**William Jackman** was born in Devonshire England, December 19, 1818, his parents being William and Mary Jackman. The subject of this sketch went to sea when nine years old and followed the occupation of a sailor for twenty-one years, when he deserted the mast to settle in Orleans county, New York, where he lived three years before moving to Dane county, Wisconsin. He was married in 1846 to Jennett Scott, a daughter of William Scott and Jennett (Nelson) Scott, and they were the parents of twelve children, all of whom are living at the present time in St. Croix county, with the exception of William, who resides in Foreman, N. Dak., and is the sheriff of Sargent county, North Dakota. The other children: Mrs. William Scott, Samuel, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Hanson, Mrs. Emma Jane Stauffer, James Henry, Thomas, Frederick, Charles David, Mrs. Margaret Baird, Mrs. Isabelle Cynthia Ryan and John Edward Jackman. Mr. Jack-

mon was a member of the High Episcopal church. He acted with the Republican party in political affairs and was by that party selected at different times to occupy most every office in Pleasant Valley township. William Jackman died April 16, 1888, and his wife died April 14, 1896.

**Robert Kealy** was born in the city of Beaver, Beaver county, Penn., June 29, 1857. His parents were Peter and Mary McLaughlin Kealy, who removed to Pleasant Valley township in 1871, where they have since resided. Robert Kealy received his early education in the public schools of the city of Beaver and then attended the classes of Beaver seminary for two years before coming with his parents to Wisconsin, where he finished his studies at the State Normal school in River Falls. Since leaving school Mr. Kealy has followed the vocation of the agriculturalist in Pleasant Valley township, where he now resides. He was married on September 11, 1888, to Miss Mary Jane Donohue, a daughter of Michael and Bridget Walsh Donohue and they are the parents of four children: Peter Robert, born August 6, 1889; Veronica, born September 9, 1891; Edmund Andrew, born September 15, 1892, and Mary, born July 21, 1897. The Kealy family are communicants of the Roman Catholic church. In politics Mr. Kealy affiliates with the Democratic party of St. Croix county, and has always been prominent in its councils. He has been chairman of the Pleasant Valley town board for two terms and is at present serving his third term as town treasurer. He has always been interested in school affairs and has been selected by his neighbors as school director several times. The only order to which he belongs is the American Society of Equity of Wisconsin.

Robert Kealy is the owner of a fine farm of 240 acres, practically all of which is under cultivation. His specialty as a farmer is the breeding of fine blooded shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs, which are prepared for market in his own feeding yards and personally sold at the Union Stock Yards at Chicago.

**William Scott** was born in Wigtonshire, Scotland, October 8, 1838. His parents were Robert and Jane McConnell Scott. The son was educated in the schools of Wigtonshire and emigrated to America July 18, 1859, locating in Orleans county, New York, where he lived five years. He arrived in St. Croix county, April 17, 1864, and in the following year purchased his present farm, where he has since resided. On July 16, 1868, Mr. Scott was joined in the bonds of matrimony to Jessie Ellen Jackman, the eldest daughter of William and Jennett Nelson (Scott) Jackman, who were among the earliest settlers of St. Croix county. They are the parents of thirteen children, eleven of whom are living.

The two dead are Jennie and Emma. The former was born July 11, 1879, and died October 20, 1896, and the latter was born November 23, 1873, and died May 12, 1878. The living children are Robert Lee Scott, of Virginia City, Minn.; Mrs. Mary Jane Solberg, wife of Harry Solberg, of Virginia City, Minn.; Samuel, of Portland, Ore.; James, of Fargo, N. Dak.; Mrs. Elizabeth Ryan, wife of Michael Ryan, of Cloquet, Minn.; Mrs. Jessie Ellen Hyntz, wife of Otto Hyntz, also residing in Cloquet, Minn. The other three sons and two daughters reside with their parents on the old homestead, and their names are William Walter, John Edward, Nora, Charles and Martha. The Scott family belongs to the Presbyterian church, and the head of the household has always been a Democrat. He has been called by his neighbors to occupy divers public positions during his long residence in Pleasant Valley township and served as town assessor for nine consecutive years.

## CHAPTER XLV.

**New Richmond City—Its Beautiful Streets and Progressive Spirit—Substantial Brick Blocks—Macadamized Streets—Devastating Cyclone—History and Biography—Richmond Township—Rush River Township—Somerset Township—Somerset Village—Springfield Township—Wilson Village—Hersey Village.**

New Richmond is spoken of by visitors as an ideal small city, and the beauty of the place and the character of the residents more than justifies this high opinion. It is said that the city contains more wealth in proportion to the population than any other city in the Northwest, and this claim has never been successfully disputed. The population is a little over 1,800, but the people are so progressive and public-spirited that they have accomplished all that would be expected of a population three times the size of that contained in New Richmond—and this, in spite of the fact that the city was almost totally destroyed by a terrible cyclone, which swept over the place in 1899 devastating its streets, destroying its buildings and entailing a severe loss of life. The village is picturesquely situated on the banks of the Willow river, which divides it into the north and south sides, one section being the business and residence portion and the other the milling portion, in which there is a large settlement of people of Swedish descent. Two railroads pass through the city, each having a station. The streets are broad and well kept, and the main street is macadamized for a short distance. The residences are large and well built, and the broad velvety lawns are tastefully adorned with shrubbery and trees, while the streets are shaded with maple, elm and boxwood trees. In former years a profusion of red and white clover filled the air with its perfume and gave the city the name of "The Clover City"—and much of this clover still remains in certain yards. Among the business houses of New Richmond are three hardware stores, eight general stores, three drug stores, one dry goods store (exclusive), two furniture stores, three livery barns, five restaurants, nine saloons, three barber shops, two jewelry stores, two tailor shops, one photograph gallery, one Chinese laundry, five hotels, three blacksmith shops, two meat shops and two shoe makers. The Willow River Lumber Company has a large plant and employs

many men, and the New Richmond Rolling Mills Company is also a large concern. There are also two cement plants, one machine shop, one repair shop and a sash and blind factory. The city is supplied with water works and an electric light plant, as well as with excellent telephone and telegraph service. There is an opera house, where good attractions appear, and aside from this the Modern Woodmen, the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Good Templars have roomy halls. Five doctors and two dentists practice here and three law firms carry on business. One newspaper, "The Republican Voice," gathers the news of the city and county and publishes this, together with the news of the general world, in a concise and attractive form. There is an excellent postal service, several rural routes, having their headquarters in the local postoffice. Seven church edifices add not only to the beauty of the town but also to its desirability as a residence locality. The high school has the finest building in the county, and has an excellent course of study. The graded schools are also well housed and taught by competent teachers. Taken altogether New Richmond is essentially a "home" city, an ideal place for residence and a still more ideal place for the bringing up of children. It has by no means reached its zenith, but is growing rapidly. The business houses are largely of brick, and it should be remembered that practically everything that has been accomplished has been done since 1899 by a people at whose hearts had been struck a terrible blow of death and disaster.

The village was incorporated in 1884. A part of what is now embraced within the city limits was originally a part of Star Prairie. The first election was held April 8, 1884, at which the following officers were elected: President, Ward S. Williams; aldermen, F. W. Bartlett, George A. Gault, Th. Gaskell, A. L. Greaton, A. H. Stevens, J. C. Sabine, John Halversen, D. H. Dodge, H. F. Fall; treasurer, L. Taft; clerk, W. F. McNally; assessor, D. A. Kennedy. The story of the men who have assisted in building up the city is told in the biographies, which follow this article.

The Bank of Richmond was incorporated September 10, 1873; opened for business September 23, 1878. It has a capital stock of $35,000, all paid in. The original incorporators were: R. A. Guy, Mathias Frisk, Joel Bartlett, F. W. Bartlett and John W. McCoy. The officers were: President, R. A. Guy; vice president, F. W. Bartlett; cashier, J. W. McCoy; board of directors, R. A. Guy, Mathias Frisk, Joel Bartlett, F. W. Bartlett and John W. McCoy. Of these R. A. Guy, F. W. Bartlett and Joel Bartlett are now deceased. The present officers are: President, Mathias Frisk; vice president, Frank S. Wade; cashier, John W. McCoy;

assistant cashier, D. W. Williams. The bank does a general banking business, paying considerable attention to farm loans. It has a surplus and undivided profit of $10,600.

The Manufacturers' Bank of New Richmond was incorporated September 15 and opened for business October 12, 1887. Its capital stock was $50,000, and the incorporators were: John E. Glover, Hudson; A. J. Goss, Hudson; John A. Humbird, Hudson; Peter Berkey, St. Paul; F. W. Anderson, St. Paul; E. A. Glover, Jr., E. J. Thompson, Charles Donohue, James Johnston, William Johnston, R. A. Guy, P. C. Maxson, Mike Peron, New Richmond. The first board of directors were: John E. Glover, James Johnston, William Johnston, A. J. Goss, R. A. Guy, E. J. Thompson, Charles Donohue and P. C. Maxson, who elected as the first officers: John E. Glover, president; R. A. Guy, vice president; P. C. Maxson, cashier; W. T. Lambdin, assistant cashier. These were reëlected each succeeding year until 1894, when P. C. Maxson resigned as cashier, and E. A. Glover, Jr., was elected to succeed him, although he took no active part in the management. At the annual meeting on December 5, 1895, John E. Glover was reëlected president; W. F. McNally was elected vice president, in place of R. A. Guy, who resigned on account of approaching age, and L. A. Baker was elected cashier in place of E. A. Glover, Jr. On June 10, 1897, at a special meeting of the stockholders the capital stock was reduced from $50,000 to $30,000. At the time of the cyclone, June 12, 1899, the bank and store building, which was owned by the bank and where it had been located since their organization, was destroyed. Since that time it has occupied a building specially built for it, at the corner of Main and Second streets. At the present time the capital stock is $30,000. Undivided profits, $5,000. Deposits $200,000. Its officers and directors are: John E. Glover, president; W. F. McNally, vice president; M. P. McNally, director; L. A. Baker, cashier; H. E. Rounsavell, assistant cashier.

In 1855 came Robert Philbrook, and for the winter built a small house in Mr. Foster's yard, then in the spring built a house opposite the present power house site, on a 160-acre farm. Solomon Russell also took up 160 acres just west of his farm. Ephriam Dawley came next. He was a carpenter by trade and had left his mark on many pre-cyclone buildings. The years 1855 and 1856 saw quite a number of additional settlers. Levi and Timothy Oaks had buildings on the Oaks and Bell farms on Paper Jack. Henry Beal came to live on a farm south, now the Gloverdale farm. There was a fairly good water power there, and some rivalry sprang up between the settlers near this and Foster's Crossing, but it seems the latter won out in regard to securing the village, and in 1858 the village was platted. The

Philbrook farm received the name of Gridly and the Russell farm the name of Fremont. The first furrow that was "broke" was from the present location of the Catholic church, east along what is now Main street, about to where Hon. Charles Donohue's house now stands. Harvey Law says he and Alex. Russell did the breaking. In 1858 came Josiah Bartlett, who became a prominent figure in the building up of the village. He was a man of some learning and became the first school teacher. A schoolhouse was built large enough to seat two on each side of the middle aisle. About this time the Methodist church was built, north of the river. Henry Beal, Harvey Law and Alex. Russell went up north about as far as Deer Park, cut the trees and hauled the logs. While the horses were eating, after the load was on, "the boys" would get out their lunch of frozen bread and pork and eat it, and when the horses were ready they started home. Mr. Foster's contribution was the sawing of the logs into lumber. About this time Leindon Coombs built a hotel and William Densmore, a store.

At the breaking out of the Civil War New Richmond was able to send a generous number of volunteers, among them Solomon Russell, who died in the service; Ephriam Dawley, Henry Beal and Harvey Law, who are still able to tell many a tale of the old days. There was another schoolhouse built about 1860-61, used until 1882, when a much larger one was erected. This was destroyed by fire in 1905, and a fine $45,000 building put up the same year. Foster's mill was superseded by a grist mill, built by Turner & Rollins, utilizing the water power. This was later owned, enlarged and operated by Hon. John E. Glover. Still later by Hon. O. W. Mosher and others, and run by electric power brought into the city by the Apple River Power Company. Later the Apple River Power Company was supplanted by the Roller Mills Company, who then furnished their own electricity. Jacobs & Cragen were superseded in the lumber business by Hon. John E. Glover and Eben Jacobs, and later by the Willow River Lumber Company, owned and operated by Hon. John E. Glover & Sons. The Roller Mills Company and the Willow River Lumber Company are the two great industries of the city. The Farmers' Grain Company also does an extensive business. The city was incorporated in March, 1885, and during this year the steel bridge across Willow river was built during the mayoralty of Hon. W. S. Williams.

The advent of the Omaha railroad gave a fresh impetus to New Richmond's advancement, and she began to grow quite noticeably, though at no time very rapidly. In 1893 the city had telephone and electric light and water systems added to its modern conveniences. The late Dr. Frank W. Epley brought

electricity to the aid of the light and water plant by building the first long distance power transmission plant in this section of the Northwest, at Somerset, Wis., and due to his initiative the city is said to have more paved streets than any place of its size in this part of the state.

In the year 1853 one might have seen the present site of New Richmond a nearly level field on the banks of the Willow river. Only one enterprising doctor, Lambert by name, with his son, had a dugout residence on the river bank near where the Phillips residence now stands. Dr. Lambert and son had a claim stretching back to Hatfield's lake. They did not remain long, but went away, no one seems to know whither. B. C. B. Foster came in 1854 and in 1855 built a sawmill on the bank of the river, near the present site of the "News" office. At that time the river was narrower at this point, more recent changes in the dam having altered the contour of the millponds. There was then a crossing about where the lumber yard now is, where teams going north with loads or to haul logs crossed over. So for a time the place went by the name of Foster's Crossing, and later by the name of Willow River. No one seems to know just when the name New Richmond originated.

One of the important influences on the life of the city of New Richmond is the church and parish of the Immaculate Conception. A disastrous fire destroyed the records of this church in 1890 and thus there was lost to posterity much valuable data concerning the early life of the parish and the people therein. The parish was founded in the year 1884, at which time the Rev. Father De Paradis was appointed its first pastor. He remained two years and was then succeeded by the Rev. Father Sturm. His stay was of but short duration and he was followed the same year by the Rev. Walter J. Fardy, who maintained the pastorate until 1892. During the latter year, Father Fardy was succeeded by the Rev. William E. Degnan. The present rector, the Rev. Michael E. Boyce, was born in Ireland, where he began his classical course which he finished in the Pittsburg Catholic college. He completed his theological course in Paris and was ordained to the priesthood there in 1887. The congregation of the Immaculate Conception is comprised of 200 families or about 1,000 souls. There is one parochial school in this parish which has an enrollment of 140 pupils who are in charge of the School Sisters. Of the societies connected with the congregation are the Altar society: President, Mrs. Margaret Barrett; treasurer, Mrs. James O'Brien. Catholic Knights of Wisconsin; Charles McCarty, treasurer, William Hughes; secretary, Andrew Deneen. Catholic Foresters: Chief Ranger, Edward O'Malley; treasurer, Michael Keefe; secretary, Martin Lynch, and a young ladies' sodality:

President, Katie Dixon; vice president, Sadie Moran; treasurer, Katie Hogan.

**C. W. Arnquist** was born in Red Wing, Minn., in 1871, a son of Nels Arnquist, a successful farmer, whose sketch appears in this volume. He received a common school education in the public schools and finished with a business course at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn., graduating in 1893. He worked with his father and farmed until 1896, when he began clerking for E. A. Glover, of New Richmond, dealer in general merchandise. In 1903 Mr. Arnquist started business for himself in his present store, succeeding the Rulein Brothers & McNally. Upon purchasing the store, Mr. Arnquist added a grocery department and later a dry goods annex. He now has the largest store in New Richmond, and his place bears the name "The Big Store." In 1907 McNally, who had been his partner, severed his connection with the concern and Mr. Arnquist's brother-in-law, L. A. Libby, and his brother, Elmer Arnquist, became interested in the business, which is now operated by these three gentlemen. C. W. Arnquist is the largest stockholder. He was married in 18— to Agnes Libby, daughter of Lyman and Caroline (Arnquist) Libby. By this marriage there are two robust sons, Warren N. and Robert L. Mr. Arnquist is a Republican in politics and belongs to the I. O. O. F. For many years Mr. Arnquist had up-hill work in building up his business. He worked night and day throroughly determined to succeed and was not daunted by any obstacle. He has reaped the reward of his toil and now does the largest business in the city, carrying a stock of $20,000. He stands well among his fellow townsmen, and is known far and wide for the honesty of his business methods.

**Marcus Sears Bell** died December 18, 1904, leaving behind him to mourn their great loss, a loving and devoted family and a bereaved community. Mr. Bell was born in Newhall, N. Y., February 19, 1844, son of Robert and Elsie (Newkirk) Bell, of that state. He came to Wisconsin and settled in St. Croix county in 1860. For two or three years he lived in New Richmond township and engaged in partnership with James Johnston in running breaking teams and conducting a threshing machine venture. In 1869 he purchased 120 acres of land in Richmond township, Wisconsin, and started developing it. At about this time he purchased property at the corner of Third street and Dacotah avenue, in New Richmond city, Wis., where he took his bride and lived until a new home on the farm was completed in 1884. To his original purchase of 120 acres of farm land he gradually added other acquisitions until he owned 320 acres, lying just south of the city of New Richmond. After a long

residence on the farm, Mr. and Mrs. Bell moved to the handsome residence in New Richmond city, which was built in the early '90s. It was here that Mr. Bell died, and where the widow continues to make her home. Mr. Bell never sought public office nor did he belong to any fraternity. A hard working, industrious man, he found his greatest pleasure in his home life. Nevertheless he took an interest in all affairs that had to do with the betterment of the town or city. Mr. Bell was one of the heaviest real estate owners in the city, and had contemplated several more building operations at the time when death cut short his career. At the time of his death he was one of the aldermen of the city and had been identified with the school board for five years. He was also an ex-president of the old village board of trustees. Mr. and Mrs. Bell were both members of the Old Settlers' Association of St. Croix Valley. They were present at the organization and at the first meeting of the association, the former being, on June 15, 1901, and the latter at New Richmond in December, of the same year. Mr. Bell was married July 4, 1870, to Catherine, the daughter of David and Catherine (Gregg) Johnston, of North Ireland, who come in 1835 to Canada, where their daughter Catherine was born. The father was born in 1798 and the mother in 1810. While in Canada the father was a lumberman. In 1856 he came to Hudson, Wis., and lived in the city one year. He next hired a farm at Hudson Prairie, Wis., which he occupied until 1861. In that year he came to Richmond township, and purchased 160 acres, after which he retired, leaving the management of the farm to his sons. He died January 15, 1872, at the home on his farm. His wife died October 21, 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston had nine children. William is now deceased. He was a lumberman and married Justina Starkweather. Frances married John Hopkins, a farmer. Eliza, now deceased, was a school teacher before marriage. She married Michael Castleman, a farmer of Canada. James was originally in the lumber business with his late brother William. He is now retired, living in Minneapolis. David died at the age of seventeen years. Ann married Norman L. Dayton, who is deceased. Mrs. Dayton lives in Minneapolis, Minn. Before marriage she was a school teacher. Margaret, also a teacher in early life, married Joseph Kelley, now a retired farmer in Hudson, Wis. John died in infancy. Catherine, widow of Marcus Sears Bell, was also a school teacher before her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Bell had four children who grew to maturity. Miss Bertha, who was a preceptress at the Hamline university, married, October 26, 1907, to Dr. Edson Newton Tuckey, of Syracuse university, Syracuse, N. Y. Miss Maude is a graduate of Hamline university, Hamline, Minn. Miss Mollie is at home.

Ernest J. is president of the B. & W. Concrete Company, of New Richmond city, Wis. Mr. Bell had also a number of brothers and sisters, as follows: John J. and Alva B., of Merriam Park, Minn.; Howard N. Bell, of Redwood Falls, Minn.; Mrs. Julia Lincoln, of Chicago, and Mrs. Sarah Springsteen, of Seattle, Wash. Judge Frank A. Bell, of Waverly, N. Y., is a half brother.

Mr. Bell was a staunch Republican throughout life. He was an attendant of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Grant C. Boardman,** head miller in the New Richmond, Wis., rolling mills, was born at Boardman, township of Richmond, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, March 10, 1866, a son of Clinton A. and Margaret (Spence) Boardman. Clinton A. was a blacksmith by trade, and was born in Norwich, Vt., February 16, 1831. He came westward to Wisconsin and settled at what was then called Lone Tree, but what is now known as Boardman. This was in the early '50s. Shortly after arriving here he and S. L. Beebe built a flour mill on Ten Mile creek and a sawmill on Willow creek at Boardman. They conducted these enterprises together until 1875, when the Johnston Brothers, in which concern Clinton A. was a silent partner, built their present large mill in Boardman. He retired in 1882, after a career that had been marked with business sagacity and strenuous effort. By his wife, Margaret Spence, born April 11, 1841, in Huntington, province of Quebec, Canada, whom he married December 15, 1858, he had nine children. Ellen J. married William Stevens, lumberman; Eliza G. married H. M. Johnston, a merchant at Glenwood, Wis.; Stephen C., secretary and head bookkeeper of the New Richmond rolling mills, married Adelia Clapp; Grant C. is the subject of this sketch; Maggie died at the age of six years at Boardman; John C. married Anita Craih, and is employed by Johnston & Belden, of Glenwood, Wis.; Isabelle M. married Joseph Lightfoot, a clerk at Glenwood; Raymond C. is a clerk at Glenwood, and married Bessie Evans; Samuel C., a traveling salesman married Stella Strait. The father of this large family was treasurer of the school board of the town of Richmond, and also occupied other important positions. Grant C. Boardman was married June 2, 1886, to Agnes, the daughter of Philip and Margaret (Runions) Brady, of Warren Depot, Wis. Philip Brady was a contractor and joiner all his life. Mr. and Mrs. Brady had three children: Mary E. married William Johnson, a blacksmith at Hudson, Wis.; Anna married Robert Douglass, a Roberts, Wis., farmer. The third child was Mrs. Boardman. Mr. and Mrs. Boardman have been blessed with three children: Clark C. is studying mechanical engineering at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Wis. He will graduate in 1909. William C. is a student at the New Rich-

mond high school, and Henry C., the youngest boy, is at home. Mr. and Mrs. Boardman are justly proud of these three robust and bright sons.

The family residence is on the corner of First street and Washington avenue, where Mr. Boardman erected a beautiful home in 1904. The family religion is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Boardman is a stanch prohibitionist and is a member of New Richmond lodge, No. 195, F. and A. M. He has worked at the milling business practically all his life, and he possesses a knowledge of the business such as has been gathered by but few men in this section of the country. Mr. Boardman is interested in all public movements and by means of his reading he keeps well abreast of the times.

**Stephen C. Boardman,** one of that energetic family for whom the village of Boardman is named, was born in that village January 11, 1864. His father, Clinton A. Boardman, was born in Norwich, Vt., February 16, 1831, and came to Boardman, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, in 1850. He was a blacksmith by trade and built the flour, lumber and saw mill at Boardman and engaged largely in the handling of lumber until the big slump in that business. Then he built a large flour mill on the site of the old saw mill. After running this for five years he sold it to the Johnston Brothers and retired from active business. He died July 27, 1887. His wife, Margaret, now living at Glenwood, Wis., was born in Huntington, Quebec, Canada, April 11, 1841, daughter of John and Eliza (Burrows) Spence, of Boardman. She was one of a family of nine children. Her father was chairman and treasurer of the town and served on the school board. Stephen C. Boardman supplemented a common school education with a course at the St. Paul Business college at St. Paul, Minn., and a few terms at the Northern Indiana normal school at Valparaiso, Ind. This fitted him for the position of bookkeeper with the New Richmond Rolling mills, which he retained for seven years. He then took a similar situation with the rolling mill at Boardman. After an absence of five years he returned to New Richmond, Wis., and when the name of the New Richmond Rolling mills was incorporated in 1900 he was elected secretary, an office that he still holds. Mr. Boardman was married, October 13, 1891, to Adelia H., daughter of Newel H. and Lavette (Allen) Clapp, who came from Vermont in the early days. Mr. Clapp was a Kinnickinnic miller. He had four children: Mrs. Boardman is the niece of United States Senator Moses E. Clapp, of St. Paul, Minn., who served in the senate chamber six years after being named to succeed Senator Davis, who died while in office. It is interesting to note that Senator Clapp is also a St. Croix valley descendant. In 1906 Mr. Boardman bought a lot on Colorado avenue and built

a beautiful residence, where he has since made his home. All his five children are at home. Amy, the oldest daughter, was born February 19, 1893, and is a popular student at the New Richmond, Wis., high school. The twins, Stephen N. and Rufus N., were born May 1, 1894. They are bright little fellows and the general favorites of everybody in the township. Lillian, five years of age, and William W., three years, complete the family. Mr. Boardman is a Republican. The family attends the Congregational church. Mr. and Mrs. Boardman are both public spirited and well read. They are noted for their hospitality, and the neighbors, young and old, never call at the Boardman home without declaring afterward that they enjoyed themselves heartily.

**Michael Brickley** is a native of New York city, born August 2, 1849, a son of Michael and Margaret (White) Brickley, both born in County Cork, Ireland. They came to America in 1848 and located in New York city for two years, then went to Dunkirk, N. Y., in 1850. While there the father was an attendant for a government lighthouse on Lake Erie. In 1855 he located in Dunleith, Ill. April, 1857, he settled on forty acres of land in Richmond township, Wisconsin. To this land he added eighty acres more. He did general farming until his death, October 1, 1874. The mother died December 17, 1892. The subject of this sketch received an education in the common schools of New York and Wisconsin. After leaving school and while still practically a mere youth, he enlisted at New Richmond in Company G, Fourth Wisconsin Cavalry, serving under Colonel Boardman and Captain Knowles. He participated in the bloody battle of Redwood Ridge, Louisiana, with Colonel Boardman. In the battle of Mobile, Mr. Brickley fought by the Spanish forts and he also participated in the battle of Jackson, Miss. He was honorably discharged at Madison, Wis., July 8, 1865. Coming back to New Richmond, Wis., he was stricken with illness, resulting from life in the army. For three years he was an invalid and at one time it was thought that he would not recover. In 1869 he took up farming with his father, and one year later he went into lumbering, following this business on the Willow and Hay rivers and on Turtle creek. He was also engaged in rafting on the Mississippi. In 1874 his father gave him forty acres of land in Richmond township, where he carried on general farming until the spring of 1879, when he sold the forty acres for the purpose of buying 160 acres in Cylon township, Wisconsin. In 1888 he returned to Richmond township and took up farming on the old homestead. Then he moved into the city and served as constable and deputy sheriff for seven years. In 1899 he was appointed United States rural mail carrier, which position he still holds.

Mr. Brickley was married, November 18, 1874, to Mary, the

daughter of Michael and Ellen Gillen, of Cylon township. The father died at Sioux City, Iowa, while visiting a daughter there, and the mother passed away at the home of a daughter in New Richmond. Mr. and Mrs. Brickley have been blessed with eight children: Ellen, Michael H., Margaret, Charles, Marie, Eliza, Thomas, and Della.

Mr. Brickley has been prominent in the G. A. R. He has been commander and held all the junior offices of the B. J. Humphrey post of New Richmond. He was also elected to the office of aid-de-camp in the state department of the G. A. R. He is a republican in politics and attends the Catholic church.

**W. H. Burrows** is a native of Canada, born December 21, 1852. His parents, C. H. and Jane (Bowron) Burrows, were born in Canada and came to Burkhardt, Wis., in 1853. C. H. followed lumbering for a time and was also a merchant. He went to Hudson, Wis., then farmed it and ran a grist mill at Star Prairie, Wis. In 1865 he returned to Hudson. One year later he purchased a farm of eighty acres at Boardman, Wis. He broke the land and made all improvements, carrying on a general diversified farming business. Selling this property, he went to California and Washington. Then he returned to Boardman and lived until his death in 1879, the mother having passed away in 1873. While in Star Prairie township he served as treasurer of the school board. C. H. and Jane Burrows were the parents of seven children: W. H. was the oldest; Stanley married Ida Mackin and lives at Boardman, Wis.; John is in the hardware business in Oregon; Frederick is a miller in the same state; Charles follows a similar occupation in Twin Falls, Idaho; Victoria, now deceased, married H. L. Metterhouse, a bookkeeper at St. Paul, Minn.; Benjamin died at two years.

W. H. Burrows received an education in the common schools. After leaving his studies he bought 120 acres near Boardman, which he improved. He sold this tract of land and bought 420 acres in Richmond township, Wisconsin. He broke half of this, erected buildings and made all improvements. At first he raised grain almost exclusively, later devoting his attention to breeding draft and driving horses, Holstein cattle, Poland-China hogs, Shropshire sheep and Barred Plymouth Rock fowls. After living on the farm twenty-five years Mr. Burrows sold out and moved to New Richmond city, Wis., in 1903. At that time he bought three lots on Second street and Dakota avenue and built two beautiful houses. One he sold, and in the other he now resides. At about the same time he became sole owner of the H. M. Jager Sash and Blind company, which employs a number of men.

Mr. Burrows was married, September 19, 1877, to Nellie J.,

daughter of Byron and Hannah F. Brown, prominent farmers of the St. Croix valley. By this union there were five children: Jane married J. D. Arnold, of Galesville, Wis.; Jessie, a graduate of the New Richmond high school, is at home; Harry owns 160 acres and farms in North Dakota; Byron, a farmer, married Jessie Anderson, of New Richmond. He buys and ships stock. Adelaide, a graduate of the New Richmond high school, is now at the training school at Menominee, Wis. Mr. Burrows has been town chairman of Richmond township, Wisconsin, and has served as treasurer of the school board two years. He is a republican in politics and a member of the Episcopal church. He affiliates with the I. O. O. F. A hard worker all his life, he well deserves the abundant measure of success and honor that has come to him. He is a friend of education and is well liked by his acquaintances.

**Oscar F. Davis** has received honors such as have fallen to the lot of but few men in this section of the country and his career includes successful and distinguished achievement as an educator, clergyman and business man. He was born in Cabot, Washington county, Vermont, March 21, 1861, of Puritan ancestry. His parents, Salmon and Lucy (Luther) Davis, were well-to-do and broad-minded farmers of Vermont. They owned 360 acres of the rich Green Mountain land and raised fine Vermont horses. Salmon Davis was a school teacher in his early days and also superintendent of schools. As first selectman he had the confidence and esteem of the townsmen whom he served. His life came to an end in June, 1907, at his home in Corinth, Vt.

Oscar's education was started in the public schools and supplemented by the training of Dr. Spaulding's academy at Barre, Washington county, Vermont. In 1880 he entered the University of Vermont, at Burlington, that state, but was forced to abandon this effort on account of illness. As a youth of fifteen he started teaching school in one of the hard schools in the country districts. The success he achieved there under difficult conditions stood him in good stead when upon leaving college he was engaged to teach for one year in the high school at Chester, Vt. His next position was that of principal of the high school at Bellows Falls, Vt., at that time one of the largest high schools of that state. Following his high school work he was principal for four years of the McCollom institute, one of the older New England academies, at Mount Vernon, N. H. While there he studied for the ministry, and being licensed to preach, he supplied the pulpit of the Presbyterian church at New Boston, N. H., for a time. In 1891 his abilities attracted the attention of the New West Education commission, and they endeavored to secure his services as the principal of an academy which they had established in Salt Lake City, Utah. An offer of $1,500 a year did not

O. F. Davis

tempt Mr. Davis away from his beloved New England, but when the committee offered $1,800 and wrote glowingly of the great opportunities for work and research at their academy Mr. Davis accepted. He remained in Salt Lake City until 1895, when he went back to New England and took the pulpit of a Congregational church at historic Plymouth, Mass. He was ordained and installed as pastor and served nearly three years.

Again his talents attracted notice and in the fall of 1897 he was prevailed upon to accept the position of principal of Gates college, Neligh, Neb. During his three years at Gates he acted as pastor of the Congregational church at Neligh one year. In 1900 the Congregational denomination of the state, which controlled both Gates and Doane colleges, in the same state, decided that two colleges in one commonwealth were not necessary. So Gates was reduced to the rank of an academy, and Doane, which had preceded Gates in date of establishment, was retained as the higher institution. This caused Mr. Davis' resignation, and he went to Chicago and took a course of lectures at Chicago university. For two years he supplied a church at Emmington, Ill. Then he was sent to New Richmond, Wis., for the purpose of occupying the pulpit of the Congregational church as a supply. He accepted the regular pastorate in August, 1903, and served two years. During his stay in New Richmond he has been greatly honored. He is a member of the board of trustees of Northland college, Ashland, Wis., and of the state committee that looks after the Congregational schools in Wisconsin. He also enjoys the distinction of being one of the directors of the Elk Mound training school at Elk Mound, Wis.

On the 21st day of June, 1905, Mr. Davis was married to Mrs. Ward S. Williams, widow of the late Ward S. Williams and a member of the firm of Ward S. Williams and Company, which conducts a department store at New Richmond. Her parents died when she was young and she was adopted by Mary A. Houston, to whom she is largely indebted for her strength of character and liberal education.

Since his marriage Mr. Davis has retired from the active ministry and has devoted his time and attention to the management of the large department store in which his wife is interested, but he still finds time for active religious work, and his services as a supply preacher are greatly in demand. Both Mr. and Mrs. Davis are public spirited and progressive and they make the most not only of their talents but also of their means in promoting the best interests of the church and society.

**E. W. Dawley,** after attaining distinction in both military and civil life, is now quietly living in his beautiful residence at New Richmond, Wis., where he enjoys the honor and respect of the

entire township. His parents, Nathaniel and Orafie (Williams) Dawley, like many of the early pioneers, were born in Massachusetts. The stories of the vast rich country to the westward then attracted them to Allegheny county, New York, where on the 12th day of November, 1830, their son E. W. was born. After living in New York state for some time the family located in New Richmond, Wis. Nathaniel bought forty acres, which he developed and improved. In 1867 he gave up farming and went to live with his son. Two years later he died.

E. W. Dawley was educated in the common schools of Chautauqua county, New York, and then learned the carpenter's trade, which he has followed nearly all his life. In 1854 he moved to New Richmond. In 1858 he built a house on the corner of First street, where he now resides. The same year, February 12, he married Isabelle Cameron, of New York state, who died September 29, 1859. Thus left a widower, he joined the Union army August 8, 1862, serving in Company A, Thirtieth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers. He enlisted again at Louisville, Ky., September 1, 1865, his first term having expired. Among his commanders were General Sully, Colonel Dill and Captains Harriman and Cox. Returning from the war, he again resumed his trade and Alnora McHenry, of New Richmond, Wis., became his wife, September 27, 1867. Their one child, Earl, graduated from the New Richmond high school. He married Lottis Ellis, of Glenwood, Wis.

Mr. Dawley was town treasurer in 1856-1857. For many years he served on the school board and occupied other important positions. He attends the Congregational church, votes the Republican ticket and belongs to New Richmond lodge, I. O. O. F., and B. J. Humphrey post, No. 216, G. A. R. In 1904 he gave up active business and retired.

**John Dowd** is a native of Ireland, born in County Clair in 1840, son of Timothy and Mary (O'Day) Dowd. Timothy Dowd came to America in 1851 and located in Westchester county, New York state. John received a common school education and then worked with his father. Later he went to St. Croix county and purchased 240 acres. He followed farming until 1903, when he purchased a house and lot on First street, New Richmond, Wis. In early manhood Mr. Dowd decided to join the navy. He went to New York for this purpose, but changed his mind and went to Australia for three years instead. Mr. Dowd was married, July 7, 1873, to Ellen Cavanaugh, of Milwaukee. She died in 1889 on the farm in Stanton township. His second wife, Rose Higgins, was born in Massachusetts and came to Stanton township with her parents when she was one year of age. She was one of three children. The father died in 1866 at Stanton. Mr.

and Mrs. Dowd have two children: Thomas and Blanche, both at home. By his previous marriage Mr. Dowd has five children.

Mr. Dowd was one of the town supervisors of Stanton four years and a member of the school board three years. He is a Democrat in politics and attends the Catholic church. He is a member of the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin.

**Charles Donohue,** miner, agriculturist and mayor of New Richmond, has led a life filled with thrilling adventures and experiences such as fall to the lot of but few men in this part of the country. He was born in Ireland, December 5, 1845, son of Daniel and Mary (Mahoney) Donohue. The family came to this country in 1849 and stayed for a short time in New York city, later moving to Ohio, and still later to Kentucky, after which they located in the St. Croix valley at Hudson, Wis., in 1855. In 1859 they moved to St. Joseph township, same county. The father followed farming, and later in life spent his declining years with his sons at New Richmond, Wis. He died in 1892. Charles Donohue accompanied the family in their various locations, and upon their settlement in the St. Croix valley he entered the St. Croix public schools and received a good common school education, although he is largely a self-made man and his wide experiences and retentive memory have given him a fund of information that could not be secured at college. Mr. Donohue has made a close study of farming, becoming an expert agriculturist. All his farming operations are conducted along the latest approved scientific lines. In the early sixties Mr. Donohue decided to try his fortunes in the west. For six years he followed the vocation of mining in Colorado, other western states, and Mexico. When the Klondyke fever was at its height he went to Alaska and remained there three years, acquiring a detailed knowledge of the geography of Alaska to such an extent that even now it is said that there are few men who know the Klondyke regions as does the mayor of New Richmond, Wis. In the fall of 1900 he returned to New Richmond and retired. As a mark of their esteem the people of the city elected him mayor, he being the only man who has ever been honored by election to that office without opposition. He was furthermore honored by being one of the state delegates to the Democratic convention that nominated W. J. Bryan for the presidency at Denver in 1908. Mr. Donohue was married in 1872, April 10, to Mary McGoldrick, at Stillwater, Minn. She was the daughter of Patrick and Mary (Carroll) McGoldrick, who were born in Ireland and settled in Iowa in the early days. During their long years of happy married life Mr. and Mrs. Donohue have been blessed with seven children, four of whom are now living: Daniel J. is a physician at Glendive, Mont.; Anna is married to John M. Haggan, D. D. S., of

New Richmond; J. C. lives at Glendive, Mont., and Mary M. is the wife of N. F. Barger, a commission man in the employ of Welsh and Company at Minneapolis, Minn. Mrs. Donohue passed away May 5, 1893.

In addition to a beautiful city residence, Mr. Donohue owns 120 acres of land in the St. Croix valley, and aside from his present position as mayor he has been on the county board for thirty years and has served as registrar of deeds for the county. For two years he was county sheriff.

**Dr. F. W. Epley** is a native of Springwater, N. Y., born August 9, 1851, son of M. H. and Elizabeth (Price) Epley. The father was born in Pennsylvania, of German descent, being brought up as a Quaker. The mother was a devout Methodist all her life. M. H., after leaving school, spent his early days as a tailor, but later took up farming. He came to Green Lake county, Wisconsin, by canal and wagon, and later to Randolph, in the same state, where he spent the remainder of his days and died in 1908. F. W. received a good common school education and was early in life inspired with a desire to be a physician. He afterward came to Hudson, Wis., with Dr. C. F. King, of whom a sketch will be found elsewhere in this history, and engaged in the drug business. While running this store he studied works on therapeutics and thus received the rudiments of a medical education. He also acquired considerable knowledge while studying under a physician at Fond du Lac, Wis. Entering Rush college, at Chicago, Ill., he graduated in 1877. Prior to this he practiced a short time in New Richmond in 1876, and upon leaving college located here permanently, having since continued to be one of New Richmond's leading men.

Dr. Epley was married, June 21, 1877, to Anna Hoyt, daughter of Dr. Otis and Eliza B. (King) Hoyt. Her father was born in Sandwich, N. H., and graduated from Dartmouth college at Dartmouth, N. H., and the Jefferson Medical college, at Philadelphia, Pa. He served as surgeon in both the Mexican and Civil wars. He practiced for a time at Charlestown, Mass., and came west in 1849 at the close of the Mexican war, locating at St. Croix Falls, Wis. Aside from following his profession in that village he was postmaster, justice of the peace and assistant in the United States land office. He was sent to the legislature one term, and then went to Hudson, Wis., where he lived until his death. Dr. and Mrs. Epley have been blessed with five children: Grace is at home; Otis Hoyt graduated from the Rush Medical college in 1904 and is now attending to his father's practice while the latter is taking a vacation for the benefit of his health; Mabel E. is a music teacher, living at home; Mary is a student in an art and

DR. F. W. EPLEY

music college at Detroit, Mich., and Samuel C. is attending the New Richmond high school.

Dr. Epley has occupied a number of public offices. He has served as mayor of the city two years, also as health officer, as surgeon of both the Wisconsin Central and Northwestern railroads for twenty-five years, and as a member of the board of pension examiners. His medical affiliations include membership in the State Medical society, of which he was president in the year of its fiftieth anniversary, county medical societies, the American Medical association, the Minnesota State and Fox River Medical societies (honorary), and the Inter-county Medical society, of which latter he has been secretary and president. He has been a Mason for twenty-five years, and also belongs to the Odd Fellows. Both he and his son, Otis Hoyt, are Knights Templar.

His public activities have by no means been confined to the field of medicine. He erected the first long distance electric transmission waterpower plant in this part of the country at Somerset, on the Apple river, and also planned the building of the long distance transmission plant which lights New Richmond at the present time. He has always been a public-spirited and up-to-date man, and every worthy cause finds in him an able advocate. In his profession he is skilled, learned and possessed of a magnetic personality, and as a man he is one of Nature's noblemen, educated and progressive, a considerate father, a loving husband, a faithful friend and a valuable citizen.

Mrs. Epley is a woman of many accomplishments and has acknowledged literary ability. Her description of the great cyclone of New Richmond, in 1899, is regarded far and wide as a model of vivid word picturing and accurate reporting. Mrs. Epley was also one of the principal founders of the New Richmond library. The first meeting to consider the library was held at her home and she has since continued one of its active friends and advocates. Both Dr. and Mrs. Epley occupy an enviable position of honor and respect throughout the community at large.

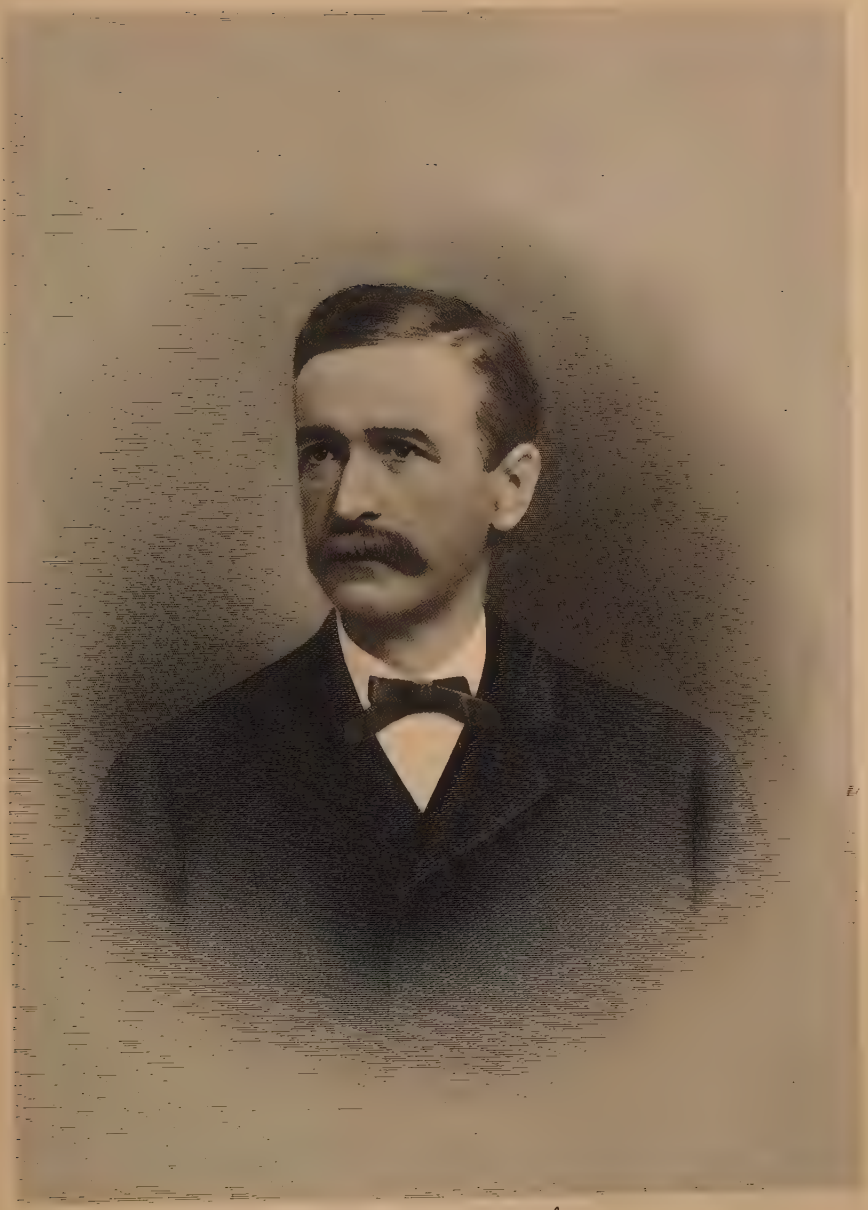
Since the above was in type, Dr. Epley's death occurred, September 23, 1908.

**William H. Frissell** was born in Lodi, Wis., April 4, 1856. His parents, George and Betsy Frissell, came to Wisconsin in 1848, locating at Prairie du Sac. William H. Frissell received a common school education and came to New Richmond in 1879. In 1904 he started a general store. He was married in June, 1882, to Clara Cockburn, of Hudson, Wis. Mr. Frissell is a member of Richmond lodge, F. and A. M., and of the Woodmen. He is a staunch Republican in politics.

**John Emmerson Glover,** to whose energy, foresight and indomitable perseverance the prosperity of New Richmond and vicinity is largely indebted, was born in Windsor county, Vermont, June 10, 1841, son of Ezra and Dorothy (Emmerson) Glover, the former having been born in Barnard, Windsor county, Vermont, in 1818, and the latter in Rochester, same county and state, in 1816. They were married in Vermont in the spring of 1840, afterward moving to Akron, Ohio, in 1843, and coming to St. Croix county in May of 1856. The father's health became impaired in following the occupation of pearl ash worker, and upon removing to this state he took up the occupation of farming, passing away in 1899, preceded three years by his wife, who passed away in 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Glover were typical Vermonters, staunch of character and clear of intellect, of a race that has had an important part in the upbuilding of the nation. They left to mourn their loss four children: John E.; Mrs. H. D. Brown, of St. Paul, Minn.; Ella J., deceased in 1887, and Ezra A., a successful merchant of New Richmond, Wis.

John E. was brought up on the farm, and after attending the common schools went to the River Falls academy, at River Falls, this state, supplementing this with a course in the law school at Ann Arbor, Mich. During the war he served three years in the secret service and one year under John J. Elwell, purchasing quartermaster of the New York department. At the close of the combat he commenced the practice of law, following the same with considerable success until 1881, when he retired from active practice. Although he has never since that time appeared before the bench in an official capacity, his knowledge of the law has been of great assistance to him in his business and in his dealings with men. Prior to the time of his retirement from the law he had become interested in the manufacture of lumber, also in buying grain, manufacturing flour and in banking, to which occupations since 1881 he has given his entire attention. In 1880 he built the lumber mill at New Richmond, equipped with one band. In 1901 rebuilt and added gang and resaw. In 1907 the business of this mill had grown to such enormous proportions that the output was 24,000,000 feet of lumber, the operation giving employment to many of New Richmond's citizens, and putting in circulation a large amount of money. In 1904 Mr. Glover sold his flour mills to O. W. Mosher. The lumber mills were transferred to his sons, George C. and Leslie, Mr. Glover, however, retaining an interest.

October 10, 1887, he organized the Manufacturers' bank, of New Richmond, of which he was and still is practically the owner. He has been its president during its entire existence. This bank has had an important part—in fact, may be considered the most



John E. Glover

important factor—in the business and financial integrity of New Richmond. During the financial panic of 1893 there was a run on the bank, and one particular Saturday night, closing time, found the cash in the vaults practically exhausted. It was then that Mr. Glover's will power, energy and strength of character came into play. Before Monday morning came he had secured $85,000.00 in cash, no small feat in those days in this part of the country, when even the big city banks were making every effort to keep every dollar of cash that they were able to lay their hands on. Piling this cash in plain sight of the waiting and anxious throng outside, Mr. Glover opened the door, faced the depositors and in rather forceful but entirely characteristic manner and language he shouted, "Come in and get your money, everyone of you. Don't wait. Come in and get it. Come in." But the unexpected and entirely unlooked-for sight of so much money and his willingness to pay it out, also coupled with the reputation that he had always borne, caused a reaction, and before night the bank had received over $20,000 in deposits not only from parties who had previously withdrawn their money but also from some who had been hoarding it. From that time to this the credit of the Manufacturers' bank has never been questioned.

February 25, 1865, Mr. Glover married Miss Ellen S. Ensign at Warsaw, Wyoming county, New York. This union has been blessed with four children: Mrs. L. A. Baker, born March 14, 1867; George C., born June 14, 1870; Leslie E., born April 2, 1873, and Mrs. Florence V. Meyer, born February 17, 1877, all of New Richmond.

The subject of this sketch served as district attorney of St. Croix county in 1875. Until 1896 he was a Democrat; in that year he voted for Palmer and Buckner, since when he has voted the Republican ticket. Aside from his other business interests, Mr. Glover owns the Gloverdale farm of 560 acres and the Willowville farm of 1,500 acres. At Gloverdale he has five large barns and four at Willowville. On these places he raises thoroughbred Galloway cattle and Belgian horses, having some of the finest imported stock in the country.

Mr. Glover has many friends, and like all men who have accomplished things, several enemies, but not one of the latter can deny that he is a man of strong character, business ability and good sense, one who has had an important place in the making of New Richmond what it is today.

Mr. Glover built and owns the Superior and Southeastern railway, which runs from Grandview to Winter on the Chippewa river; has 34 miles constructed and under operation; when completed will be eighty miles, including branches. The Willow

River Lumber company owns 200,000,000 standing timber on this line.

**Andrew Hanly** was born in County Limerick, Ireland, March 17, 1831, a son of John and Catherine Hanly. The father died in Ireland and the mother passed away in Ohio. Andrew received a common school education in his native country and then came to America, living seven years in Knox county, Ohio, where he worked at railroading on what is now the Baltimore and Ohio road. He then followed the same occupation four years at Davenport, Iowa, and two years at Hudson, Wis. In 1862 he decided to take up farming. He purchased a section of land in Warren township, carrying on general farming. He disposed of pieces of his land from time to time, until he retained 240 acres of the original purchase. This he has recently sold to his son Ottis. Andrew Hanly has always been known as a man of sterling honor and integrity. He has been honored by holding the positions of chairman and supervisor of the township of Warren, and has also occupied other positions of trust and honor. He has given all his children good educations and has achieved his own success by the hardest kind of labor. He now lives on the old homestead with his son, having largely retired from active work. He is a Democrat in politics and attends the Catholic church.

The son, Ottis, is a progressive farmer, and is looked upon as one of the successful young men of this locality.

**Colonel S. N. Hawkins,** ex-mayor of New Richmond, Wis., who, in the face of apathy and opposition, had the courage to declare in his inaugural address of April 17, 1906, that the people of every community have as good a right, morally and legally, to protect themselves and their children from the pollution of the profaner and the blasphemer as they have to guard against the contagion of scarlet fever, or smallpox, or any other contamination, is a man whose opinions on this subject have received commendation from prominent thinkers in nearly every state in the Union. Although he has met with reverses that would have crushed weaker men, he has risen above it all and is now far on the road to an even greater prosperity than that which was blasted and ruined by the devastating tornado of 1899. Stephen Nathaniel Hawkins was born near the city of Loughrea, County of Galway, Ireland, December 26, 1846. He was the youngest child of a family of sixteen, twelve of whom, eight boys and four girls, grew to manhood's estate and settled, later on, in the St. Croix valley, Wisconsin. The genealogy of the family shows that on the father's side they were of English extraction, derived from the Saxon "Hawkingge," of Saxony, which name was Anglicized to Hawkins in the County of Kent, in England, from which place his ancestors went to Ireland. On the mother's side

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they were of Norman Welch extraction, the family on the mother's side being readily traced back as far as the twelfth century to Thomas De-Jorse, afterwards modernized as Joyce. Thomas De-Jorse emigrated to Ireland and settled in what was known afterwards as "The Joyce's Country," since which time the people on both sides had resided in Ireland and became thoroughly identified with the Irish people. His people came to America while he was yet an infant and settled in Meriden, Conn., from which place they came to Wisconsin in 1852, settling upon a farm near the city of Madison, and in 1855 they were among the early pioneers of the St. Croix valley, which place has ever since been his home. His mother died when he was but seven years of age, after which time he lived with his sister until, at the age of fifteen, he ventured abroad to make a living among strangers, working during the summer months and attending the public schools in the winter. During those years he was engaged in various kinds of employment, farm laborer, following breaking teams, threshing machines, in saw mills, on rafts on the Mississippi river and steamships on the lakes, also as clerk on a steamboat, and thus, by his own efforts, unaided save by providence, as the years went by he obtained the best common school education which the country afforded in those early pioneer days, and finished his course at the "old academy" at River Falls, at that time the principal seat of learning in northwestern Wisconsin, and was the valedictorian at the close of the scholastic year in 1864. At the age of fourteen he enlisted for the army, but was rejected on account of his youth, but later on, however, he was accepted and served until he was honorably mustered out at the close of the Civil war. On his return home from the army he began life as a school teacher in January, 1866, and taught successfully in various parts of the St. Croix valley, including a term in "The Military Institute" at Hudson. As an evidence of his success as a teacher he was paid from five to twelve dollars a month higher wages than any other person received during the last two years of his service in that occupation. He also taught school in Dubuque, Iowa, in 1869, and at the close of his labors was deputized by the county superintendent to assist him in the examination of the graduating classes of the various schools of Dubuque county, Iowa. While teaching school he also studied both law and medicine. While in Dubuque, Iowa, he had for his tutor Dr. M. H. Waples, county physician, a graduate of the Jefferson Medical college, of Philadelphia, and at Hudson he studied with that sturdy veteran of two wars—Dr. Otis Hoyt—formerly a surgeon in the Mexican war and Civil war. During the same time he studied law under the instructions of Judge Wetherby, of Hudson, and while in Dubuque he attended the various courts in that

city and thus laid the foundation of his future legal studies and practice.

From 1872 to 1876 he was engaged in the mercantile business at New Richmond, and during that period the firms of Early and Hawkins, Thomas Early and Company, and S. N. Hawkins and Company (general merchandise) were well and favorably known in commercial circles. The financial panic of 1873 embarrassed a number of merchants, many of whom took advantage of the bankruptcy laws and became released from their debts through insolvency proceedings, but Mr. Hawkins chose to face the situation like a man, and arranged with his creditors for an extension of time and gave them security, even upon his homestead by a mortgage, and although he lost $4,900.00 and four years' hard labor by such a course, yet, at the end of four years thereafter, 1880, he had the satisfaction of redeeming the last obligation existing against him, and he and his friends celebrated the event by holding an informal banquet in his office. Having disposed of his mercantile interests in the spring of 1876, he returned to his first love—the law—and after a searching examination in open court, as was the usual custom in those days, he was duly admitted to practice law in the county and circuit courts in the fall of 1876, before the supreme court of Wisconsin in 1884, department of the interior in 1886, United States federal courts in 1887, and United States supreme court at Washington, D. C., in 1900.

Mr. Hawkins has been the presiding officer in many fraternities—G. A. R., I. O. O. F., Modern Woodmen, and others—and although not an office seeker, yet he has occupied practically every local and municipal office within the gift of his fellow citizens, including the office of district attorney several terms and mayor of his city. He has been a delegate to county, congressional and state conventions of the republican party, as well as a member of the congressional committee, and was in attendance at the republican national convention at Chicago in 1888, when Benjamin Harrison was nominated for the presidency of the United States. As an orator he has been in great demand on patriotic events, and the fraternal organizations and civic societies have frequently drafted him to fill the position of orator on their programmes of entertainment.

Prior to becoming incorporated New Richmond had given bonds to a railroad corporation, and in 1873 Mr. Hawkins was selected by his townsmen as a suitable person to go to Madison and look after the interests of the town, as a fierce conflict was being waged at that time in the legislature as to the extension of the land grant to that railroad. In 1878 he donated his services to the people in drafting the necessary papers and in pro-

curing from the circuit court (as was the procedure at that time) a village charter, it being at that time a very difficult proceeding on account of the intricacies and imperfections of the law as it then existed. Again, in 1885, his services were sought to aid in the drafting of the city charter and then to proceed to the state capitol at Madison and assist in procuring its passage.

In 1872 he married Margaret Ellen Early, a native of Allegany county, New York, who proved to be a constant and faithful companion throughout all the busy scenes and changes of his public life. Six children blessed their union, the oldest of whom died in infancy, and the remaining five—three boys and two girls—grew up to be fine promising children. He had a nicely furnished home and an elegant library at his house and another at his office. The three oldest children graduated from the high school with honors. The oldest son, Fred, after teaching school several terms, took a special course at Laurence university, Appleton, Wis., and Robert and Cammilla took special courses in commercial colleges, and being, as he believed, fully equipped to manage a successful business themselves, a new firm—Hawkins and Hawkins—was organized by him in May, 1899, and started into business with flattering prospects of future success. June 12, 1899, a terrific tornado swept over the city of New Richmond, shattering all of Mr. Hawkins' fondest hopes with its cruel breath. A reporter, who visited the scene of disaster at the time, wrote as follows: "Perhaps the saddest case of all that occurred as the result of that direful tornado was that of Hon. S. N. Hawkins. His wife, two highly educated and accomplished daughters, his youngest son, a bright boy of twelve years, his niece, wife's aged father, and their hired girl—in all seven persons killed and his home and all its furnishings, including his home library, swept away, his tenement houses demolished, his office, including his elegant law library, all destroyed, and he himself badly injured, buried under a two-story brick building that fell in upon him, head bruised, lower limbs crushed, ribs fractured, bones broken, so that after being extricated he was taken to St. Joseph's hospital in St. Paul for treatment."

After some treatment at the hospital he returned, in a crippled condition, however, and erected an office and started his two sons, Fred and Robert, who, with himself, survived the disaster, and together they labored for a while to re-establish their home and business. Owing to the great shock which he received, and his attempts to work before he recovered, he soon became prostrated with melancholia and neuritis and was compelled to take further treatment and a vacation to get rid of sad memories, and so, leaving his law office in charge of his sons, and upon the advice of his physicians and friends, he went to Washington,

D. C., in 1900. Mr. Hawkins keeps a picture of President McKinley hung up in his office and the special written invitation that he received to attend a presidential reception is framed and hangs in his parlor as a memento of the kind-hearted martyr president.

About the same time the Grand Army national encampment, hearing of the sad catastrophe and remembering the patriotic services of Mr. Hawkins, his youthful enlistment, his active participation in soldiers' reunions, Decoration day exercises and memorial addresses at various places, sent him a commission with title of colonel as aide-de-camp on the staff of the commander-in-chief, G. A. R.; hence the title colonel.

Being desirous of getting away from the scenes of sad memories and with visions of the golden West before them, his sons—first Fred, the oldest, and next Robert, went westward, and the father was left alone. After mourning in loneliness for his loved ones for over two years, in 1901 he married Katrina Victoria Kane, of Watertown, Wis. He has built up a beautiful home again and is rapidly gathering a new library to take the place of the one that he lost. In 1902 his son Robert came home from the West, afflicted with a malady from the effects of which he died in less than a week, and again the father was stricken with grief. He made a trip to Tacoma and Seattle the same year to see his only remaining son and nursed him through a long siege of sickness until he recovered. That son, Fred, his only remaining child, is still in the West. Mr. Hawkins has been engaged in several very important cases which attracted more than local interest. "The Kibbe will case" is said to be the most stubbornly contested case of its kind ever tried in that county. The will for which Mr. Hawkins contended was sustained. During his incumbency of the office of prosecuting attorney, from 1888 to 1892, there were several noted criminal cases of more than local interest, which were managed by him in such an able manner as to elicit very favorable comment from the court officers and complimentary notices in the newspapers. One of the cases which was fought very strenuously and which was watched with a great deal of interest all over the Northwest was what came to be known as "Hawkins' famous police court." Briefly stated, that case, also known as "The Hallowe'en cases," started in 1906, when Mayor Hawkins, having caused the adoption of the general charter, contended that it carried with it a provision for a police court. Nearly if not all the other lawyers contended otherwise, but Mr. Hawkins after due deliberation established a police court and appointed a police justice to act until it could be filled by an election. The court thus established did business all summer and, although there were doubts expressed as to its validity,

yet no protest was formally entered and no legal proceedings were had to determine its validity. Hallowe'en time approached and Mayor Hawkins caused notices of warning to be published that, while he would be lenient towards innocent and harmless amusement, yet annoying elderly and infirm people and destruction of property would not be tolerated. As an extra precaution he appointed an extra policeman in plain clothes to guard against the wanton destruction of property. The next morning, however, it was found that the mayor's orders had been disregarded. Then the police court was set in motion and young men and boys varying in their ages from thirteen to twenty-three years were dealt with. Nearly all plead guilty and paid their fines. Several who had plead guilty, however, refused to pay the fine and were sent to jail. On habeas corpus they were released by the county judge on the theory that no police court existed or could exist under the New Richmond charter. Then they sued the officers, including the mayor, for big damages for an alleged false imprisonment. The case was fought vigorously through five courts and the Supreme court decided that a police court did exist.

Mr. Hawkins' people were originally what was known as "Douglas Democrats," but when the Civil war broke out they fought to preserve the Union, and our subject became a member of the Republican party.

His office is quite noted for the correctness and systematized method of doing business, and his dockets and other records are kept with neatness and dispatch. He is noted as being a wide observer of men and events and among his choicest possessions are his "Scrap Books," which are methodically arranged with indexes and proper titles, such as "Editorial Comments," "Current Events," "Legal Clippings," "Wit and Humor," etc., so that upon nearly every topic of discussion he has a fund of information, and many mooted questions upon general topics have been settled by the disputants after visiting Mr. Hawkins' office. In closing this sketch of Mr. Hawkins we may be pardoned if we conclude by quoting the language of another, who said:

"His has been a busy life, and his lips know not the taste of the bread of idleness. Whatever else may be said of him when he is gone, no one can truthfully state that he ever tried to deceive a fellow man by chicanery or crookedness, or that his advice was otherwise than truthful, honest and sound."

**Oscar Hemenway,** a veteran of the Civil war, was born in Rockford, Ill., in 1839. His parents, Samuel and Lucinda (Adams) Hemenway, were natives of Ludlow, Vt., and were well known and honored in that vicinity. Oscar worked with his father until 1861, when at twenty-two years of age, like some thousands of other youths, he responded to the call for volunteers and enlisted

in the Union army, serving in Company H, Tenth Vermont, under Colonel Henry. His captain was a brave and gallant officer by the name of Hunt. Mr. Hemenway's war record was a most honorable one and included service as corporal and sergeant. He saw the battles of the Wilderness, Petersburg, Sailors Creek, Bloody Angle and Cold Harbor. Upon his discharge he went to Holyoke, Mass., and opened a grocery store, which he conducted with considerable success for a period of one year. He was married in June, 1866, to Manda Carr, the daughter of Almon and Anna (Morse) Carr, of Vesper, N. Y. Disposing of his business at Holyoke, he went to Ludlow, Vt., and engaged in lumbering for three years with his father. After this he came westward and located in Star Prairie, St. Croix county, Wis., where he took up eighty acres and broke the land, making all improvements. Like other farmers in the vicinity, he at once planted wheat upon his acres as soon as he developed them. Later he changed this to corn and started breeding grade and short-horn cattle, as well as Poland-China hogs. Mr. Hemenway is an independent voter and has served on the Star Prairie town board. Their faith is that of the Congregational church. They have no children. Mr. and Mrs. Hemenway are both people who keep abreast of the times by considerable reading, and they take an active interest in public affairs, local and national. They have a pleasant home and a fertile farm, and their hospitality is widely known.

**R. S. Hurd** was born in Potter county, Pennsylvania, September 22, 1852, a son of Joseph and Susanna (Sharp) Hurd, of the same county. He came to St. Croix county, Wisconsin, as a youth, and received a common school education. His first work was at lumbering and milling for the Johnson Brothers at New Richmond, Wis. Then he bought the old homestead and eighty acres more near by. Here he raised wheat for a number of years. After this he turned his attention to breeding Holstein grade cattle, Poland-China hogs and Plymouth Rock fowls. Mr. Hurd followed farming until 1894, when he sold his farm and moved to Roberts, another St. Croix county, Wisconsin, town. For eleven years he carried on a grocery and grain elevator business, buying grain for the Wisconsin Elevator Company. He moved to New Richmond in 1904 and bought the house and a three-acre lot, where he now resides and upon which he has made many improvements. October 3, 1883, Mr. Hurd was married to Mrs. Anna J. Cave, daughter of S. S. and Jane (Briggs) Spencer, of Pennsylvania. By this union there are four children. Lee S. is at home. Robert L. is a druggist and graduated from the New Richmond, Wis., High School. Elsie also graduated from the same school and is now a teacher. Ruth is still a student and is

also at home. Together with his oldest son, Mr. Hurd now conducts a pump and wind-mill business. He is an independent voter. He affiliates with the Roberts Lodge, No. 319, I. O. O. F. His wife is a member of the Rebekah degree of the latter order.

Mr. Hurd is much interested in the early history of the county and he has interesting recollections of one period when 300 Indians passed through Little Prairie, Erin township, St. Croix county, and entering Mr. Hurd's home, helped themselves to whatever pleased their fancy, including a spotted fawn's skin that was valued highly by the family. These were Sioux Indians from Minnesota, and a few days later the Chippewas, with painted faces, passed that way inquiring for the Sioux. Mr. Hurd has always been a hard working man, and his success is due to his own labor.

**Henry M. Jameson** is a native of Orono, Me., born September 24, 1844, a son of John G. and Nancy (Godfrey) Jameson, both natives of Maine, where the father was a merchant. In 1849 they removed to Beloit, Wis., and after a year's sojourn in that place went to Elk River, Minn., where the father built a sawmill and continued in the lumbering business until the time of his death, in 1869. Henry M. attended the common schools at Elk River, then went to the Academy at Monticello, Minn., and finished with a general course at a business college in St. Paul, Minn. After completing his studies he clerked in the general store at Elk River and in 1871 opened a hardware store at Princeton, Minn., under the firm name of Jameson & Brasie. He continued this business for about four years, also engaging in the lumber industry. Since 1886 he has been a traveling salesman. For three years he represented the firm of Rich & Co., of Minneapolis, Minn., and then accepted a similar position with the Hartman Clark Company, of Chicago, going as far as the coast. After nearly two decades with this company he engaged in 1906 with Booth & Co., of Chicago, who handle a similar line of goods. Mr. Jameson was married, November 12, 1869, to Laura H. Foster, of New Richmond. She was the daughter of B. C. B. and Charlotte (Gilman) Foster, of Maine. They moved to Hudson, Wis., in 1854, and remained one year. In July, 1855, they came to New Richmond, Wis., where the father built a large sawmill, entering into the logging business on Willow River. He sold this industry to Gibson & Staples and bought 240 acres in what is now known as New Richmond City, but was then called Foster's Crossing. He broke and developed the land, making all improvements. He built and owned the first frame house erected in the present city of New Richmond. Upon this place he did a general farming, raising principally wheat. He was a breeder of short-horn and Holstein cattle and owned a

large flock of Shropshire sheep. For a short time he engaged in the druggist business in New Richmond, after which he retired. He died January 19, 1889. There were two children in the family besides Mrs. Jameson. Eugene died in infancy, and Hiram B. is a farmer and iceman in New Richmond.

Mr. and Mrs. Jameson have been blessed with two children. Maude died at the age of three years, and Clyde L. is a telegraph operator. Like many other New Richmond people, the family suffered in the cyclone of 1899, their home having been entirely destroyed. Mr. Jameson is a Democrat in politics and attends the Congregational church. He affiliates with the Masons at Minnesota and the Union Commercial Travelers at Des Moines, Ia. He has been successful, has made all he owns by hard work, and is popular with all his associates, enjoying the confidence alike of his employers and the men to whom he sells goods. He is regarded as an excellent salesman and respected for his worth as a man.

**L. L. Knapp, M. D.,** physician and surgeon at New Richmond, is a native of Maine, born in Franklin county, March 24, 1851, son of Leonard S. and Lucy (Farnham) Knapp, who lived in Maine. The mother was born in Bangor of that state. The father was a farmer. He came here on a visit, but returned to his native state and died. In early life he was a school teacher.

L. L. Knapp received a thorough elementary education in the Western State Normal School at Farmington, Me., later studying at Kent's Hill, the Great Wesleyan Seminary. He then took up the study of medicine, fighting against great odds, as he was troubled greatly with his eyes. He alternated work at school with bookkeeping and teaching. He graduated from the department of regular medicine at the University of Michigan, June, 1883, and located at New Richmond the same year. His popularity was evident from the start. Commencing with no practice, he worked his way along until his personality, his worth and his skill won him a large practice and a warm place in the hearts of those families at the bedside of whose loved ones he performed such faithful and efficient service. After over a quarter of a century of medical work in the town he still continues his active practice.

He was married in 1879 to Jennie M. Ingerson, daughter of William Rounds Ingerson, of Vermont, who died in Michigan. Dr. and Mrs. Knapp have had no children. Mrs. Knapp is a patient invalid, her poor health being caused by the cyclone of 1899, when their property was all swept away, making necessary a new start in life. Dr. Knapp is a devoted husband, while she bears bravely her long days and nights of suffering.

Dr. Knapp is a Republican in politics. He has served as

health officer several years and has been supervisor of the first ward several years also. In 1880 he joined the Masons and later affiliated with the Odd Fellows. He is a member of his county and state medical societies, also a member of the American Medical Association. He is a self-made man, owing all that he has achieved to hard work, great skill and undaunted perseverance.

**Harvey Law** comes of old Connecticut parentage, but was born in Freedom, Cattaraugus county, N. Y., March 23, 1838. His father, Harvey, Sr., was born in Connecticut and married Eleanor Spear. In western New York he worked at blacksmithing and saw milling until he came to Wisconsin and built the first blacksmith shop in New Richmond. J. Cook purchased this shop in 1860, but Mr. Law, Sr., continued to occupy a part of it for the purpose of making guns. He was closely identified with the early life of the town, serving on the town and school boards and as councilman a number of years. He helped to build the first school house in New Richmond. In common with other boys of his age, Harvey, Jr., attended school and worked on the farm. Then he bought and improved forty acres of land, upon which he raised wheat and oats. After eighteen months he sold this tract to his brother and started work as a millwright and carpenter. He continued this for twelve years. Since then he has been a contractor and builder of the city. Some years ago he bought a house and ten acres of land at the corner of Star and Third streets, where he now resides. In 1861 he enlisted in Company E, Twelfth Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry, and served under Grant and Sherman. For two years he was commissary sergeant and saw service not only at the sieges of Vicksburg and Atlanta, but also in the famous march from Chattanooga to Atlanta. Upon his honorable discharge in July, 1865, he returned to New Richmond. His civil record since then has been equally as noteworthy and includes service as marshal and school supervisor. Mr. and Mrs. Law have two children—Edith married W. W. Benham, superintendent of schools at Farmington, Minn. Both Mr. and Mrs. Benham are graduates of the Methodist University at Hammond, Wis. They have three children. Before her marriage Mrs. Benham was a school teacher. The other daughter, Aurelia, is married to Charles M. Todd, a railroad operator in Chicago. Mr. Law is a staunch Republican and a Methodist. He is the oldest past commander of the B. I. Humphrey Post, G. A. R., No. 103, and has also served all the junior offices of the post. B. I. Humphrey, in whose honor the post is named, was a brother-in-law of the subject of this sketch.

**Michael J. Linehan** is a native of Prince Edward's Island, Canada, born in 1845, son of John and Mary (Dewyer) Linehan, who were residents of Ireland, and on their way to Boston when

their son was born. They settled in Boston, attained success there, and were carried to their last resting place in one of its beautiful cemeteries. Michael came to this section of the United States in 1870 and located first in Minneapolis, spending eight years in the Niccolet house. In 1878 he moved to Richmond township, this county, and bought a farm, carrying on a general farm business until 1901, when he retired to his present fine residence in New Richmond City. Mr. Linehan was married the first time to Mary Wells, the ceremony being performed November 4, 1872. By this union there were three children by the first wife. For the second time he married Elizabeth Lee, of Boston, in the month of October, 1889, her parents having come from the old country in the same ship that his parents came in. By this union there were no children. Sarah is a trained nurse and dressmaker. She served in the postoffice four years, now residing at home. Mary has been in the telephone office six years as night operator. John lives at Staples, Minn., and is a locomotive engineer.

During the Civil war Mr. Linehan served in the navy. He ran away from home and enlisted at Philadelphia, in 1862 serving under the noble Admiral Farragut in the Western Gulf Squadron until the month of July, 1864, when he was honorably discharged at the Brooklyn navy yard, Brooklyn, N. Y. He participated in the battle of Port Hudson, in which six were killed and forty wounded, and in the battle of Donaldsville, in which fourteen were wounded and two killed, including the gallant Captain Reade. Mr. Linehan also took part in all the skirmishes of the campaign along the Mississippi. His knowledge of naval affairs made him the general information bureau on matters of water warfare during the Spanish-American war, and he was never too busy to explain some little understood detail to all of the citizens of New Richmond who might make inquiries of him. His naval experiences have also given him the title of "Commodore," by which he is known among his friends and associates. Mr. Linehan has filled all the offices in the B. I. Humphrey Post, No. 114, G. A. R., and has also held public offices in the township. The family worships at the Catholic church.

Mr. Linehan is a man of courage and bravery and is noted for his interest in public affairs. He is honored for his naval record and respected as a citizen, a friend and a man.

**William McFetridge** is a native of London Day, Ireland, born February 17, 1845, son of James and Mary McFetridge. The father brought his wife to America in 1851, landing first in New York city and then staying in Pennsylvania, lumbering, for three years. They came to Wisconsin, May, 1855. William was one of their six children. Margaret married Hiram Jacobs, a farmer

and lumberman. Jane, a school teacher, died in 1867. Anna, a school teacher, lives at the present time with William, who was the fourth child. May married Alexander W. Beal, a retired farmer. James married Margaret Carroll and lives on a farm in Richmond township, Wisconsin. William received a common school education and left school to join the Union army. He served in Company G, Fiftieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Clemment and Col. J. G. Clark. The company was used as a reserve in Kansas and Dakota for eighteen months and then honorably discharged June 18, 1866. Mr. McFetridge then purchased forty acres in Richmond township and lived there nine years until 1876, when he bought 160 acres more and broke and developed the land, making all improvements. Mr. McFetridge was married, December 3, 1890, to Celia A., daughter of George and Betsy Frissell. She was one of a family of eight. John Frissell, her brother, born in 1851, township of St. Joseph, was the first white child born between Hudson and Superior, Wis. The father was a justice of the peace at New Richmond for several years, and also at Cumberland, Wis., two terms. Mr. and Mrs. McFetridge have four children. In 1899 Mr. McFetridge sold 160 acres and bought forty acres near the city line of New Richmond and moved there in March of that year. Mr. McFetridge is an independent voter. He belongs to Richmond Lodge, No. 216, I. O. O. F., and the family worships at the Methodist Episcopal and Baptist churches. Mr. McFetridge is a strong believer in education and does what he can to advance its interests.

**Thomas Maloney** was a well known citizen of New Richmond, Wis. He died in August, 1908, in his beautiful residence, where he moved a few years ago after retiring from active farming. He was born in County Mayo, Ireland, a son of John and Mary (Padden) Maloney. John Maloney came to Canada in 1846, where he remained two years. In 1848 he went to Wheeling, W. Va., working on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad twelve years, the line being the first one laid in that section of the country. In 1860 he went to Ohio and worked on the Monticello railroad for one year. Coming to Wisconsin, he located at Whitewater and continued working on the railroads. Two years later he moved to Hudson, Wis., and after a short stay took up his residence at Erin Prairie, St. Croix county, Wis. He bought 240 acres and made general improvements, remaining until his death in 1871.

Thomas Maloney received a good education in the public schools and then took up farming and lumbering with his father until the latter's death, when he took the home farm and for a number of years made wheat his principal crop. Later he took up stock breeding and dairying. He carried on a general farm-

ing business with much success and devoted a part of his time to Durham cattle.

In 1861 Mr. Maloney was married to Kate Early, of County Mayo, Ireland, where her father lived and died. Her mother came to this country and died at Erin Prairie, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Maloney were the parents of six children, all of whom are prominent in the localities in which they reside.

**D. H. Minier** is a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1847, son of E. B. and Ariann Minier. The father combined the occupation of farmer with the profession of a Methodist clergyman. He came here in the early days and died in 1905. D. H. Minier came to St. Croix county in 1868 and settled in New Richmond, working in the woods, threshing and breaking land. Subsequently he started a livery barn, which he has continued for over thirty years. The business is now housed in a large brick barn on Main street, where there is a continual stock of from twenty-five to thirty horses, with fine vehicles and other equipment, which make the place the leading livery in New Richmond. Mr. Minier was married in 1880 to Emma Chambers, whose parents were old settlers, coming to this section in the early days. The father was a contractor and subsequently became mayor of La Crosse, this state. The mother was a Southern lady, a niece of General Stewart, of Confederate army fame. Her people were well to do and owned considerable land in the South. Mr. and Mrs. Minier have three children, Hugh, Emma and Thomas, all of whom are at home.

Mr. Minier is a Republican in politics, but has always refused to take public office, although the matter has been suggested to him several times. For thirty years he has been a Mason, and he had the honor of representing the New Richmond lodge at Milwaukee recently.

**Ed O'Malley,** genial proprietor of the Hotel Commercial at New Richmond, was born in Mendota, Minn., in 1867. His parents, Ed and Anna O'Malley, came from Ireland in the early days and devoted themselves to farming until the time of their deaths. Young O'Malley received his boyhood education at Mendota, and for a number of years in various places he practiced his trade as stationary engineer. In 1898 he saw the possibilities of a new hotel in New Richmond and accordingly built the Hotel Commercial. He was married in 1893 to Jennie Stanton and has four children—Walter, Margaret, Anna and John—all of whom live at home. Mr. O'Malley votes the Democratic ticket, and at the last election was given the office of alderman, a position he had already occupied with credit two years. He is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and is well known as a public-spirited citizen. The faith that he showed in the growth of New

Richmond when he invested his money in a hotel has been well justified, and he is now reaping the results of that confidence.

**George Oakes,** attorney at law, was born in Richmond City, St. Croix county, Wis., April 21, 1861, son of Timothy B. and Angeline (Pichon) Oakes. The father was a native of Maine and came to this state in the early days. In 1852 he located in this county, bought land near New Richmond, where he lived until 1866, after which he in turn occupied several farms. He passed away December 2, 1885, leaving a family of eight children, all of whom still survive. In politics he was a staunch Republican and always took an active interest in public affairs. George was first educated in the public schools, after which he entered the University of Minnesota and graduated with honors in 1892, at once beginning the practice of law in New Richmond, where he has since remained. He conducts a general law business and is regarded as an able and eloquent attorney. Mr. Oakes was married in 1894 to Carrie E., the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Dale) Baker, originally residents of Iowa county, this state, but later of Madison, where they removed in order to educate their family. Mr. and Mrs. Oakes have one son, Dale B., a bright little fellow who attends the public schools. Since starting practice Mr. Oakes has had one long period of success, except in 1899, when, like so many others, he had everything swept away by the cyclone. He is a member of the law firm of Smith & Oakes, which also carries on a large insurance business. He is a Republican in politics and has been both city clerk, city attorney and supervisor of the second ward. He is rapidly rising to higher positions and has the esteem both of the bench and the bar and of the public.

**P. Phillips** was born in Sligo county, Ireland, in March, 1828, a son of John and Mary (Byrne) Phillips. His father died in the old country in 1842. His mother came to America with the family in 1846. The father was a carpenter. P. Phillips received his education in the schools of his native country. After leaving school he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed in Ireland until 1846, when he came to Canada and took up similar work for fourteen years more. In 1865 he located in Erin Prairie, St. Croix county, Wis., and a year later in Richmond, same county. He purchased 160 acres from Dave Fulton, one of the early pioneers. He broke the land to grain and erected a house and other farm buildings. After nineteen years on the farm he moved to New Richmond City, Wis., and built a brick structure known as the Phillips Block, which was entirely swept away by the cyclone of 1899. After this disaster he built a solid fire-proof brick structure that now bears his name. In 1883 he erected a handsome brick residence on Second street, New Richmond City,

Wis., where the family now resides. Mr. Phillips was married in the month of November, 1871, to Bridget M. McConaghy, of Belleville, Ontario, Canada. She was the daughter of Sarah and Francis McConaghy, of County Hastings, Canada. By this union there were three children. The two living sons are Francis and Charles. The oldest, John P., died in 1900. Francis learned his father's trade of carpentering and is now engaged in farming in North Dakota. Charles was formerly editor of the St. Paul, Minn., "Chronicle." He is now editor of the "Monitor," San Francisco, Cal. He was also formerly editor of the "New Century" at Washington, D. C.

Mr. Phillips is a Democrat in politics. In religion Catholic. He has served on the town and school boards several terms and has always been known as a public spirited and enterprising citizen.

**Francis Searle,** now deceased, was one of the influential residents of St. Croix county,Wisconsin. In whatever capacity he was engaged, either public or private life, he was never found wanting in devotion to duty, and his decease left a vacancy in the community that will not soon be filled. He was a native of Durham county, England, born March 7, 1844, a son of John and Margaret (Pollistine) Searle, of that county. John Searle was an overseer in one of the English mining districts. He came to America in 1851 and located at Hammond, St. Croix county, Wis. Like the other pioneers, he bought 160 acres of land, upon which he made improvements and erected buildings. For many years he raised general crops, after which he retired and spent his declining years with his son until his death, at the ripe old age of eighty-six years.

Francis received a good education in the schools of England and St. Croix county. Until twenty-one years of age he worked with his father on the farm and then elisted in the Union army, August 14, 1862, at Racine, Wis. He served in Company F, Twenty-second Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He saw service under Col. Upguard and Captain Pugh, both brave officers. He participated in the battles of Resaca, Dallas, Gollathe, the siege of Atlanta, and accompanied Sherman on his famous march to the sea. At Peach Tree Creek he received a bad scalp wound, and at Benton Wood, March 25, 1865, he had the misfortune to be captured. For seventeen days he experienced the horrors of life in Libby prison, after which he was paroled and exchanged at Benton Barracks, St. Louis, Mo. May 24, 1865, he participated in the grand review at Washington, D. C., and on June 12, 1865, he received his honorable discharge at Milwaukee, Wis.

Returning home, he lived at Erin Prairie, Hammond and Stanton townships, St. Croix county, Wisconsin. He bought 220 acres

in Stanton township, broke and improved the land and raised general crops. Grade Jersey and short-horn cattle, Poland-China and Berkshire hogs and a large flock of Shropshire sheep were also included in the products of the farm. In 1890 he sold this place and purchased a lot on Green street, New Richmond City, Wis., where he built a beautiful home and lived in retirement until his death, April 26, 1905. His widow still occupies this beautiful property.

Mr. Searle was married, October 20, 1867, to Mary Hughes, of New York City. She was the daughter of Michael and Anna (Terell) Hughes, prominent farmers of Erin Prairie, Wis. By this union there were seven children. Anna married Mathew Munroe, of Milwaukee. John F. married Katherine Quinlan. He is a farmer in Stanton township, Wisconsin. Bessie and Walter are students at the New Richmond High School. Margaret died at fourteen, Arthur at five and Mary at nine. Mr. Searle served as chairman, clerk and treasurer of the town board of Stanton. At the time of his lamented death he was commander of the B. I. Humphrey Post, No. 103, G. A. R. He also belonged to the Catholic Knights, of Wisconsin. He voted the Republican ticket and attended the Catholic church. Mr. Searle was a strong believer in education and his opinions always carried weight. Mrs. Earle also enjoys a high standing among her neighbors and friends.

**H. S. Toal,** now living in retirement in New Richmond, was born, July 27, 1833, at St. Stephen, N. B., Canada, son of Thomas and Mary (Milbury) Toal. Thomas Toal was a timber estimator and prominent lumberman in the region of the St. Croix river, on the boundary of Maine and Canada. After leaving the common schools H. S. Toal worked twenty-seven years in the St. Croix river valley, Wisconsin, as a lumberman. In 1862 he bought 120 acres at Boardman, town of Richmond, breaking the land and making improvements. He raised stock, grain and general crops and was a breeder of registered Durham cattle, Poland-China hogs and Merino and Shropshire sheep. The cyclone of 1899 swept away his buildings to the number of seven and left his house much dilapidated. Two years later he built new barns and granary and repaired the house. In 1901 he sold this farm to W. E. Webster, of Hudson. Then he bought a house and eight lots in the city of New Richmond, making improvements. He has since resided on this property. Mr. Toal was married in 1860 to Mary L. Hitchings, of Robbinston, Me. Her father was one of the selectmen of the town and a well-known lumberman and farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Toal have five children—Fred, married to Dora Beebe, of Boardman, is in business in Red Wing, Minn.; Abbie is the wife of the Rev. G. W. Campbell, a Methodist preacher now located in Eau Claire; Josephine is employed as

copy editor for a Minneapolis publisher; Thomas S., electrician, is superintendent of city water works and lighting plant at Ely, Minn. He married Laura Luff, of Cumberland, Wis. Elva is a music teacher at New Richmond. Mr. Toal has been road commissioner and chairman of the town. He is a staunch Prohibitionist. The family worships at the Methodist Episcopal church.

**Franc A. R. Van Meter,** one of the leading newspaper men of the valley, was born May 9, 1872, at New Richmond, Wis., son of Abe C. and Frances R. (Bagley) Van Meter, and grandson of Miles H. Van Meter, one of the early settlers of Hudson, Wis. Abe C. was a veteran of the Civil war, serving in Company A, Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. After being mustered out he returned to Hudson, Wis., and worked at his trade as printer, both in that city and in La Crosse, Wis. He went to New York with Brick Pomeroy, returning afterward to La Crosse. In 1869 he established the St. Croix "Republican," New Richmond's first newspaper, and continued in the newspaper business in New Richmond until his death in January, 1899. His wife spent her girlhood in La Crosse and was there married to A. C. Van Meter in 1870. Franc A. R. received his preliminary education in the public schools and graduated from the New Richmond High School in 1887. During his school days he made his father's printing office his headquarters, and the day after graduating he went to work there, having followed the newspaper and printing business ever since, being a veteran in newspaper work if not in years. He continued on the St. Croix "Republican" until 1894, when he went to La Crosse and became city editor of the "Republican and Leader," the successor of Charley Seymour's old newspaper, on which his father had worked thirty years previous. He continued on the "Republican and Leader" until 1899, then went over to Ellis B. Usher's La Crosse "Morning Chronicle" as city editor, remaining until 1900. Mr. Van Meter then returned to New Richmond and became editor of the "Republican Voice," his brother, C. H. Van Meter, having purchased E. J. Scott's half interest in that publication. Previous to 1899 there had been two newspapers in New Richmond, the "St. Croix Republican" and the "New Richmond Voice." After the cyclone, June 12, 1899, the two papers were merged. The Van Meter-Welch Printing Company, of which Mr. Van Meter is president, was organized and incorporated in February, 1907, bought out the "New Richmond News" on January 1, 1908, continued that publication as a weekly and then purchased the "Republican-Voice," semi-weekly, consolidating the two papers on that date under the name of the "News and Republican-Voice," semi-weekly. The reputation of this paper is too widespread to need comment. Clean, newsy, well

written, carefully edited and dignified, it is a fine sample of what small city journalism is at its best. Mr. Van Meter has always been a Republican in politics. In 1893—in fact before he was a voter—he was elected supervisor of the first ward of the city of New Richmond, and April 1, 1902, was appointed postmaster, receiving his reappointment April 1, 1906. He is a member of La Crosse Lodge, No. 300, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and during his residence in La Crosse served for a number of years as secretary of that lodge. He was married June 12, 1899, to Katherine Young, of La Crosse, Wis., by whom he has three children—Dorothy Young, John Abraham and Katherine Frances.

**Edmund Walsh** was born in Tipperary county, Ireland, December 2, 1847. His parents, Edmond and Margaret (O'Donel) Walsh, came to America and located first on a farm at Milwaukee, Wis., where they remained five years. In 1857 they moved to Star Prairie, St. Croix county, Wis., and took up 320 acres of government land, which they broke and developed, making all improvements. They also erected a house and barns, carrying on a general farming business. The subject of this sketch received a common school education and worked with his father on the farm. Then he spent seven years in lumbering and river driving. Deciding to settle down to farming, he bought eighty acres at Star Prairie, Wis., and devoted the next few years to bringing the acres to a state of high cultivation. Later he bought 240 acres in the same township, and also broke, improved and developed this land, as well as erecting a house and other buildings. His principal crops were wheat and other grains, and he was also a breeder of Durham cattle, Berkshire hogs and Poland-China hogs. For thirty-nine years Mr. Walsh followed farming until 1907, when he bought a house and lot on Green street, New Richmond City, Wis., and moving there, retired from farming. February 16, 1868, Mr. Walsh married Kate Huges, daughter of Michael Huges, an Erin Prairie farmer, who died in 1906. By this union there were eleven children—Margaret, married to Thomas Walsh; John, married to Florence Frawley; Edmond, killed in the woods at the age of twenty-seven; Kate, married to A. B. Dennismore; Richard, a railroad man; Annie, married to Patrick Higgins; May, a trained nurse at St. Paul; Arthur, an electrical engineer, and Charlie, who married Mary Gallagher and lives at New Richmond, Wis. All the children have done well in life and are a great credit to the training of their parents. All received good educations. Mr. Walsh has been a member of the town and school boards for some time. He has been treasurer and director of schools for many years. He votes the Democratic ticket and worships at the Catholic church. He has been a hard working

man all his life, and all the success he has won has been due to his own hard work, backed up by unswerving honesty.

**Thomas Wears** was born in England, December 1, 1852. Thomas W. Wears received a common school education at Boardman, Wis., and moved to New Richmond in 1876. Thomas W. Wears was mayor of New Richmond, Wis., during the cyclone of 1899, and upon him devolved the task of keeping a strong hand upon the government during these exciting times. That he did so to the satisfaction of his fellow citizens is shown by the fact that in 1901 he was elected to succeed himself by a large majority. Mr. Wears was married in 1876, April 2, to Anne Belle Dodge, of New Richmond, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Wears have had four children, two sons and two daughters, all of whom have reached man and women's estate, except Paul, a sturdy boy of sixteen, who is a student of the New Richmond High School. Mr. Wears always voted the Republican ticket. For thirty-three years he has been a Mason and belongs to the Royal Arch Chapter. Among his public offices are included alderman of New Richmond for ten years, president of the city council for two years, two years assessor, and treasurer of school district No. 4. Mr. Wears is a carpenter by trade, an industrious man, and a man of unswerving honesty.

Mrs. Thomas W. Wears (Maria, Ionoica, Anne Belle Dodge) is a daughter of Elizabeth (Francis D. Porter) and Solomon Dodge, who gave his life "for the right, as God gave him to see the right," and sleeps in a soldier's grave, leaving his daughter a rich inheritance of honor.

Mrs. Wears came to St. Croix county in 1864 and has lived there continuously ever since. Mrs. Wears' predominant characteristic is a passionate love of the beautiful, particularly embodied in the works of nature, believing that, whatever may be our lot, it is ours to brighten it with beautiful thoughts, visions of beauty and high ideals. Mrs. Wears is a woman of marked individuality, of irreproachable character, a woman of high ideals and ever keenly interested in all which has for its object the uplifting of humanity. Intelligently faithful to all obligations of the various organizations of which she is a member, respected by her associates, deeply sympathetic, loyal in her friendships, generous to a fault, kindly appreciative of the best in the lives of others. Mrs. Wears has a marvelously retentive memory, ready apprehension, and withal a deep thinker, profound reasoner, living her innermost life in that passionate intensity that it is only given to the mystic to know, an accurate judge of human nature. While approachable, affable, nevertheless a woman of great reserve, only a privileged few are given glimpses of the treasures of her heart and mind. Most a brilliant conversationalist, capable of clothing her thoughts in clearest beauty, a purist in the use of English

language. One need only to enter her home to know by that intangible, indefinable, indescribable something pervading the atmosphere that a woman of innate refinement and exquisite taste abides therein.

Mrs. Wears is a descendant of a family of exceptional attainments. The name of Dodge is often synonymous with merited honor, the brigadier general, Francis Dodge, being awarded a medal of honor by congress for distinguished gallantry in the early sixties. He served with the Twenty-third Massachusetts Regiment; William S. Dodge, artist, who did the mural decorations for the World's Fair at Chicago; William Dodge, the well-known philanthropist; Mary Abigail Dodge, known as Gail Hamilton, authoress, while the mother of Edmund Clarence Stedman, poet and critic, was the gifted Elizabeth Dodge, and it is a simple matter of history that the first governor of Wisconsin was Cæsar Augustus Dodge.

Mrs. Wears is deeply interested in the welfare of our beautiful St. Croix valley, than which God's sun never shone on fairer land, coming to New Richmond when there was only a narrow foot path through Main street, where we have miles of fine pavement, only a small school house with two recitation rooms, today a well-equipped, commodious structure, with its corps of able teachers, of which we are justly proud. Great was the rejoicing when the first church was built in the community, jubilation when the last spike was driven and the railroad was a fact in New Richmond; permitted to listen to the first sermon preached in New Richmond; privileged to ride on the first passenger train pulled out of the village—could Mrs. Wears be otherwise than deeply interested in the civic problems of the city, religious, educational, municipal, professional, commercial and all the good peoples, of whom Abraham Lincoln well said, "God must have loved the common people, since He made so many of them." We are common children, of a common Father, with a common destiny.

Mr. and Mrs. Wears have a home on the banks of the classic Willow river, a most beautiful, picturesque abiding place, situated at the head of First street. The industry of Mr. Wears and the heroic self-sacrifice of Mrs. Wears have enabled them to own Fern Terrace, a most beautiful place in which to grow old.

**Chris K. Willa** is a native of Norway, born May 16, 1853, son of Knute and Halfrey (Thorsen) Willa, who lived and died in Norway. Chris came to the United States in 1880 and for a short time remained in La Crosse, Wis., afterward moving to New Richmond, where he has since resided. Arriving here, he at once started to carve his fortune by working in the sawmills and in the woods. He saw the possibilities of a boarding house of a

good class, and accordingly he started taking boarders, which he has continued for twenty-four years under the name of the Scandinavia hotel, on the North Side. He has recently built a fine residence next to the hotel and retired from the active management of the business. For many years Mr. Willa was known as the musician of the village. He is an expert on the violin and has made considerable money playing for dances, parties and the like. Mr. Willa was married in 187-- to Elena Voge. They have one daughter, Helma, who is at home. He was one of the first Norwegian settlers in the third ward and has served as alderman of the city of New Richmond. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Norwegian church and has occupied all its offices. In a fraternal way he belongs to the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Willa has been successful throughout life and he is very highly regarded in the community.

**Byron Webster,** now deceased, will long be held in honored memory by the people of New Richmond, Wis., where for many years he occupied an important place in the life of the community. His parents, Bailey and Anna (Bailey) Webster, came from Boston, Mass., in the early thirties and took up farming at Vernon, Waukesha county, Wis., where Byron was born, December 31, 1838. He received a good education and then spent one year at Green Bay, Wis. Coming to Warren township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, in 1857, he bought 160 acres, which he broke and developed, erecting houses and barns. The first crop was wheat; later the farm was devoted mainly to raising cattle. After owning this farm twenty-five years Mr. Webster sold it and bought 120 acres at Roberts, Wis., where he stayed two years. In 1885 he located at New Richmond, Wis., and spent his remaining days cultivating forty-five acres of land which he purchased there. Both buildings and land under his careful attention were greatly improved. Mr. Webster's public career included service as street commissioner and alderman in New Richmond, and as a member of the school, town and assessors' boards of Warren. He voted the Republican ticket, attended the Congregational church and affiliated with Richmond Lodge, I. O. O. F. His death, September 15, 1905, robbed his family of a loving husband and devoted father and the neighborhood of a faithful friend and valued citizen. Mrs. Webster, a woman of kindly disposition and many accomplishments, was born November 6, 1844, maiden name Harriet Clifton. She is the daughter of Aaron B. and Rebecca (Stilwell) Clifton, who came of good old Connecticut stock. Aaron B. was born February 5, 1818. He was a carpenter and builder. His wife was born January 11, 1823. They had ten children. Mr. and Mrs. Webster were married October 15, 1861, at Vernon, Waukesha county, by the Rev. E. J. Keevill. Their long years of

N. S. Williams

married life together were most happy ones, and Mrs. Webster will never cease to mourn her great loss. To comfort her in her declining years she has three children—Bernard N., a physician at Rice Lake, Wis., married to Carrie Williams; Cora L., wife of F. D. Fuller, a Kalamazoo, Mich., manufacturer, and Ernest C., who married Ivadelle Beebe. Ernest has been a druggist, and is now in the cement business, manufacturing concrete building blocks and sidewalks. Mr. and Mrs. Webster's interest in educational matters has been great, and they were both prominent members of the Old Settlers' Association of St. Croix County, which contributed so much to the higher life and aims of the town in the early days.

**Harry M. Williams** first saw the light of day in Davisville, Cal., August 1, 1877, son of Ward S. and Estella (McFarland) Williams, of whom a sketch is found in this history. Harry M. received his education in New Richmond, Wis., and at Carleton College, Northfield, Minn., where he was known as an able and painstaking scholar, very popular with all his companions. After receiving his college diploma he returned to New Richmond and successfully engaged in the clothing business, his affable manners and pleasing temperament making him an admirable salesman. After his father's death he entered into partnership with his brother, Donald W., in the clothing and men's furnishing business, which enterprise they still conduct, having a rapidly growing trade. Harry M. Williams was married, August 1, 1907, to Mary G., daughter of John and Katherine (Stephens) Wells, who came to this county in the early days. Mr. Williams is a member of Richmond Lodge, No. 195, F. & A. M., of which he was worshipful master in 1905 and 1906. He is also a member of New Richmond Chapter, No. 54, R. A. M., of this city. He is one of the young and energetic business men of New Richmond that have made the city the hustling center of a rich farming community, a worthy son of a noble father.

**Ward Spooner Williams** is one of those men whose names will ever be associated with all that is truest and best in the development of the city of New Richmond, Wis. He was a faithful friend, a loving husband, an acute business man, a polished and educated gentleman, and a deep observer of public affairs. Mr. Williams was born in New Portland, Somerset county, Me., September 20, 1841, the third son of Joseph Williams, a prominent farmer of the state of Maine. The family descended from the early Maine pioneers, and the great-grandfather of Ward was a Revolutionary soldier and first settler of New Portland. The entire line had one long history of brave deeds and rugged honesty, together with love for their families and devotion to the cause of religion. Ward S. Williams attended the common

schools and then took a course in the North Anson Academy. Graduating from this institution, he taught in the country schools for a time and then acted as a teacher in the academy. In 1862 he went to California, following his brothers, Abram P. and W. W. Like the majority of people living in New England who went to California, he went by boat from New York, crossed the isthmus by land and then took a boat to the Golden Gate. Arriving in California, he took up school teaching and was so highly regarded that he was sent to the California assembly during the administration of Governor Stanford. For a time he engaged in merchandising in Davisville, Yolo county, and also in wheat ranching in Colusa county. Successful in all these ventures, he amassed a comfortable fortune. With this fortune he came to New Richmond in the early eighties. In 1884 he started business with W. W. and S. M. Bixby under the firm name of Bixby Brothers & Williams. The following year Mr. Williams built a handsome residence on West First street, at that time the largest in the city. That same year the firm erected a large double front stone building, which was afterward destroyed by the cyclone of 1899. In this store the firm dealt in general merchandise and conducted the shipping of farm produce on a large scale. In 1888 Mr. Williams bought out the interests of W. W. Bixby, and in 1896 S. M. Bixby retired, upon which the Ward S. Williams Company was organized with Mr. Williams as the head of the firm. In October, 1899, following the cyclone, the firm of Williams & Olsen was organized, taking over the clothing department and similar lines. In March, 1903, S. Olsen retired and the firm was consolidated with the Ward S. Williams Company, Harry Williams taking charge of that branch. Upon the organization of the Ward S. Williams Company, in 1896, Mr. Williams formulated a plan of profit sharing whereby a certain portion of the investment was assigned to each of the clerks and employes, and all of the earnings on that portion of the capitalization over and above a certain per cent was credited to the employes of the company, a liberal policy that is still in vogue in the store.

Mr. Williams took an interest in the Bank of New Richmond shortly after he came to the city and for many years was a director of that institution. At the time of his death he was both a director and one of the vice-presidents, having held the latter position since 1898. Mr. Williams also had mercantile interests at different times in Shell Lake and Spooner, this state; Ada, Minn., and Postville, Iowa. He was a member of the village board of New Richmond and was largely instrumental in bringing about the incorporation of the city. He was the first mayor of the city, being elected without opposition. During the administration he had an important part in the erection of the bridge

over Willow river. Through his efforts as a member of the school board a high school building was erected. Mr. Williams was secretary of the New Richmond Cemetery Association and an active worker in the same.

Fraternally he was a member of the Masonic order in California and also of the I. O. O. F. Mr. Williams was twice married. His first wife was Estelle McFarland, whom he married at her home in Fairfield, Me., July 2, 1870. She died in New Richmond. His second wife was Geraldine S. Houston, whom he married in this city, May 7, 1890. Mrs. Williams still survives and is married to Oscar Davis, formerly a college professor and clergyman, now associated with her in carrying on the business of the Ward S. Williams Company. By his first marriage Mr. Williams had one daughter, Freda J., born April 29, 1875, graduated from Holyoke College, and died October 8, 1902, and two sons, Harry M. and Donald W. He also had two sons by his second marriage, Ward S., Jr., and Abram P. Three brothers survive—Hon. A. P. Williams, of San Francisco; W. W. Williams, of Fallon, Nev., and O. J. Williams, of this city.

Mr. Williams died May 12, 1904, of creeping paralysis, being a patient sufferer for many years. He is laid to rest in New Richmond. Of such a man it were almost superfluous to make any comment upon his character. His memory is forever enshrined in the hearts of all who knew him. A friend has said of him: "He was a man in the truest sense of the word—broad minded, public spirited, progressive, energetic, tactful, conservative, kind, considerate, sympathetic and liberal. His heart beat in sympathy with every good word and work, and his heart and purse were ever open to his fellow men. He was loyal, ever affectionate to his friends and liberal and considerate with those who opposed him. His domestic life was most exemplary, and his public career that of a thorough, consistent Christian gentleman. In his death the city lost a champion and humanity a friend."

## RICHMOND TOWNSHIP.

Richmond township is one of the richest farm sections in the county. It is one of the interior townships of the county, bounded by Somerset, Star Prairie, Stanton, Erin, Warren and St. Joseph townships. It includes township 30, range 18, is drained by the Willow river, crossed by two railroad lines and contains several settlements, New Richmond City, Boardman and Clarendon station. The land is mostly undulating prairie. Among the early settlers prior to 1855 were: Eben Quinby, Lewis Oakes, James Taylor, Harvey Law, Norman Hooper, J. J. Smith, A. S. Kinne, W. R. Anderson, Francis Kelley, Clinton Boardman, S. L. Beebe, the Beal brothers, E. P. Jacobs and E. W. Darnley. The

town was organized in 1857 with the following officers: Supervisors, Robert Philbrick, chairman, C. A. Boardman and Harvey Law; clerk, W. M. Densmore; assessor, W. R. Anderson; treasurer, G. W. Law. The first postoffice was established at the house of Joel Bartlet, who acted as postmaster, the office being known as the Richmond postoffice. The first mail brought on a mule's back from Maiden Rock contained but one letter. The postmaster's commission for the first quarter amounted to just $1.59. The postoffice case contained but four boxes, 5 by 6 inches in size. Richmond township contains 22,497 acres, having an average value of $34.50. There are 510 horses, valued at $30,600; 1,275 neat cattle, valued at $17,850; 400 sheep, valued at $1,200; 300 swine, valued at $1,500. The total value of real estate is $781,900; total of personal property, $63,500; grand total, $845,400. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in Richmond township in 1908: Wheat, 125; corn, 756; oats, 4,274; barley, 1,095; rye, 273; flaxseed, 289; potatoes, 85; strawberries, 23½; raspberries, 4; currants, 4; hay, 2,397.

**John Ball** is a native of Roundout, Mass., born in December, 1854, son of John and Margaret (Joyce) Ball, who came to America in the early days and in the fifties located at Janesville, Wis., where they remained for some time before removing to New Richmond. The father has followed farming all his life and is still living at the noble old age of ninety-four years. The mother died several years ago. John Ball has lived in this county forty years. He was educated in the public schools and learned the farming business with his father. In 1876 he was married to Johanna, the daughter of Patrick and Johanna Flannery, residents of this township for over half a century. Mr. and Mrs. Ball have been blessed with eight children. They are: Fred, Margaret, Mary, deceased; John, Eddie, Josie, Martin and Loretta. All are at home except Eddie, who is a successful school teacher. Mr. Ball owns 480 acres of fine land in Richmond township, all except forty acres of heavy timber being highly cultivated. Every improvement on the place was made by Mr. Ball and he has every reason to be proud of the result that he has achieved. He has a beautiful house, well furnished, and kept in a style which testifies to Mrs. Ball's excellencies as a housekeeper. The barns are large and well kept. In front of the barn is a lake that has not been dry for fifteen years, thus giving the property the name of Silver Lake Farm. Mr. Ball does a large general farming business, raising crops of a diversified nature, as well as breeding fine stock. He is a Democrat in politics and has served as school treasurer for several years. He is a good citizen and an industrious worker, highly regarded by all who know him. The family is also well thought of throughout the community.

**S. A. Burrows** was born in Bushy, now called Burkhardt, town of St. Joseph, St. Croix county, Wis., April 8, 1855, a son of C. H. and Jane (Bowram) Burrows, a sketch of whom appears in this volume in connection with that of W. H. Burrows. S. A. Burrows received a common school education, after which he farmed for ten years. He then went to the Johnson flour mills, Boardman, and kept a first-class boarding house for six years. After another year on the farm he went to St. Paul, Minn., and purchased a grocery store, which he successfully conducted for a period of seven years, at the end of which he sold out and accepted a position as motorman on the St. Paul & Minneapolis Street railroad for about eight months and then worked at carpenter work. Again he returned to Richmond township and located on L. M. Mackin's farm, where he has since carried on general farming. October 18, 1876, he married Ida, daughter of L. M. and Betsy (Fuller) Mackin, prominent farmers of Boardman, on whose farm he now resides. By this union there are five children: Burton L. is a motorman on the street railroad at Los Angeles, Cal.; Edna M. graduated from the St. Paul, Minn., High School, and became a bookkeeper. She is now the wife of R. W. Anderson, a stock buyer and dealer at Clear Lake, Wis. Benjamin, a graduate of the New Richmond High School, is at home. Alma and Ruth are also at home. Mr. Burrows is a staunch Republican and attends the Episcopal church. He is a hard working man and has won all that he now owns by hard work. He is a man whose word can always be relied upon, and his honor and honesty are above reproach.

**Jacob Dailey,** for thirty years treasurer, school director and road overseer of the town of Hudson, was born on the 18th day of November, 1833, in Canada. He is the son of William and Mercy (Barnhart) Dailey, the former of whom was born in County Cork, Ireland, and the latter in New York state. William Dailey, a cabinet maker, came to Canada in the early days. In 1849 he settled in Hudson township on a piece of government land. His cabinet making proved a success here and in 1851 he brought his family to Hudson. Five of his eleven children are still alive. Jacob Dailey was educated in the common schools of Canada. After his arrival in this state he started farming upon eighty acres of school land that he took up in 1853. In more than a half century that has passed since then he has spent a large part of his life in bringing the farm to its present state of perfection. When he was younger he worked for a time on the St. Croix river and also in the woods. Mr. Dailey learned his father's trade, but has never worked extensively at it. He was married, August 16, 1859, to Martha Kelley, daughter of John and Frances (Johnston) Kelley. Mr. Kelley was a native of Ireland, and Mrs.

Kelley was born in Canada. They came to this country at the same time as the Dailey family and continued farming until the time of their death. Mr. Dailey votes the Democratic ticket. His family of nine children have all been given a liberal education. They are: Alice, a trained nurse, married to R. E. Hodgin, of Hudson; Anna, married to Harry Jones, of Hudson; Flora, deceased; Francis, who is Mrs. Ira Chapman, of Minneapolis; Charlotte, who is Mrs. J. F. Kinne, of New Richmond; Janette, a stenographer at St. Paul; Kate, a clerk, and Jessie, a stenographer, both at Minneapolis. Mr. Dailey's long term of office has kept him in close touch with the progress of events, and few men are better informed than he on the history of the growth of the town.

**Garret Fuiten,** a retired farmer now living at New Richmond, is a native of Washington county, Wisconsin, born April 10, 1850. His parents, John and Gertrude Fuiten, were natives of Germany. They came to Addison, Wis., in 1847, and bought 300 acres of wild land. Assisted by his son, Garret, John Fuiten broke and improved this land and erected a house and barns. He did a general farming for some time, then sold out and moved to Fond du Lac, Wis. He purchased a beautiful home, in which he still continues to live with one of his daughters. Mr. and Mrs. John Fuiten had nine children: Catherine lives at Hudson, Wis.; Annie resides at Fond du Lac; Margaret died at thirty years of age; Garret was the fourth in the family; Fred lives at Fond du Lac; Sylba died at twenty-three years; John died at eight years, and two of the children died in infancy.

Garret Fuiten received a common school education in Hartford, Wis. After leaving school he remained on the farm with his father nine years. In 1873 he purchased seventy acres in Hartford, Washington county, Wis., which he broke and improved. Until 1890 he carried on a general farming, then he sold out and bought 112 acres in Dodge county, Wisconsin. In 1898 he sold this farm and moved to Ripon, Fond du Lac county, Wis., where he purchased 160 acres, upon which he farmed until 1898, when he sold out and moved to Ripon City, Wis., and lived there three years. Coming to New Richmond in 1901, he bought 200 acres in Richmond township. This in turn he sold, reserving for himself three lots, upon one of which he remained and built a residence, where he now lives. Mr. Fuiten was married to Catherine Volkerts, of Campbellsport, Wis., a daughter of Garret and Sophia Volkerts. Mr. and Mrs. Fuiten have had two children: Clara married Paul Breames, a farmer of Richmond township; Benjamin, the second son, is a farmer of Star Prairie. In 1906 he bought 100 acres, on which he has erected a new barn. He also has under construction a fine house, nearly completed. Mr. Fuiten

is a Republican and attends the Methodist Episcopal church. While in Ripon, Wis., he served as chairman of the town board nine years.

**Anthony Germain** is a native of St. Croix county, born in Somerset township in 1858, a son of Zedore and Delimore Germain, both of French descent. The father was a farmer and came to the United States at the age of 65 years when St. Paul was not in existence. He died on the farm of his son, August. Of his family of 12 children, 7 still survive. Anthony received a common school education and then started work on the farm, which occupation he has since made his life work. He owns a fine farm of 240 acres in Richmond township, 200 being under the plow. All the land was broken by Mr. Germain himself and all the improvements on the land are the result of his own hard work. He raises general crops in large quantities and also breeds cattle, hogs and horses. In 1882, Mr. Germain was married to Jane Lute, daughter of Joe and Betsy Lute, who were old settlers in this valley. By this union there are 10 children, John, Mary, Henry, Archie, Rosie, Agnes, Willie, Ernest, Walter and Fred, the latter being deceased. All the children have been a credit to their parents and are well thought of by their associates. Mr. Germain votes the Democratic ticket. His farm is highly improved and he is regarded as one of the successful and prosperous citizens of the vallew.

**Francis Kelly** is still hale and hearty at the age of 92 years although he has undergone experiences that would severely test the strength of the majority of men. He comes of fighting stock, his father having been one of Wellington's soldiers at the Battle of Waterloo. Francis, sr., was a linen weaver of County Donegal, Ireland. By his wife, Winifred Boyle, he had four children. Francis, jr., was born, Nov. 1, 1813, the youngest of the four. This son received a common school education at County Donagal and then took up farming. In 1844 he came to Quebec and worked on a farm four years. With a party of gold seekers who chartered their own ship, he went to California in 1849 and in five years amassed a small fortune. Returning east in 1855 he took up 460 acres of government land at New Richmond at $1.25 an acre. Upon this land he made improvements and sunk a 40 feet filled well. Susie, the eleventh child of John and Frances (Richards) Feehan, became his wife, April 15, 1886. John Feehan was the village blacksmith of Borrissary, Queen's county, Ireland. He and his wife died in 1851. Mr. Kelly has been a school director of Richmond for several years. He is a staunch Republican and attends the Catholic church. Mrs. Kelly also has an interesting history. Upon coming to this country she traveled in the New England states, making her home chiefly in Wethers-

field, Connecticut, the first town founded in that state. She made her home with the Beldens, who were the original settlers. The Kelleys have been blessed with eight children: Fannie, wife of John Henry, a prominent New Richmond farmer; James, who died in infancy; Francis, who died at five years of age; Mary, wife of James Lundy, another prominent farmer of New Richmond; Isabelle, postmistress at St. Paul Park, Minnesota, married to William O'Brien, deceased; Susie, deceased at 20 years; William, who lives at home; and Emma, deceased. William carries on the work of the farm and looks after his parents. He is an up-to-date farmer and is a worthy descendant of a long line of honest and fearless men and women.

**John D. Kinne** has been a resident of Richmond township for more than half a century. During that time he has always worked for the best interests of the public at large. He was born in Perrysburg, New York, October 14, 1837, son of Albert S. and Eliza (Williams) Kinne. His father came to New Richmond in October, 1853, and took up 320 acres at the government price of $1.25 an acre. He served as chairman of the town and member of the school board, and died in May, 1896. John D. Kinne received his education in the public and high schools of Gawaunda, N. Y. He assisted his father in developing his farm. In January, 1864, John D. Kinne enlisted in Company D, Thirtieth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers, and served on the frontier under Captains Fulton and Marshall until the close of the war. Mr. Kinne was married, December 27, 1863, to Augusta Erving, one of the six daughters of a prosperous farmer of Whitehall, Trempealeau county, Wis. Mr. Kinne was chairman of the town of Richmond for thirteen years, ending in 1908. He has been chairman of the county board and clerk and treasurer of the school board. He is a popular member of the I. O. O. F. and an independent voter. The family worships at the Congregational church. There are three children: John F., married to Charlotte Darley, and lives at home with his father. Dora is the wife of A. F. Chadwick, a commercial man of Superior, Wis. Payton W. married Jessie Wimpels. He is a successful farmer of North Dakota. Mr. Kinne is one of the influential citizens of Boardman and is known for the fairness of his dealings with all. It is interesting to note that all the horses that Mr. Kinne uses are raised upon his own farm and are his especial pride.

**L. Leith** is another man of eastern parentage who has won success in this part of the country. He was born in Gallia county, Ohio, on the 18th day of April, 1855. His parents, Theodick and Julia (Hull) Leith died in the east, having spent the greater part of their lives in farming. L. Leith was educated in the common schools of Ohio. He went to Illinois in 1865 and worked

on a farm two years. Three years were spent in Black River Falls, Wis. and three years at Rochester, Minn. Then he worked three years in the woods of St. Croix county and finally located in New Richmond, where he engaged in the pump, windmill, bicycle and farm implement business. He afterward established the Hotel National, which he now conducts. It has the reputation of being the leading hotel in New Richmond. Mr. Leith was married in 1903 to Ella Geddas, daughter of Edward Geddas. Two children have blessed this union, Lemuel E. and Gladys J. The Democratic platform embodies his political belief and he fraternizes with the Knights of Pythias and the I. O. O. F. Mr. Leith is one of those genial landlords who make everyone feel at home in their hostelries, and his guests received the best of accommodations in every particular.

**John Lundy's** life has been one of hard work well done, and successful results honestly accomplished. He was born in Cresgen, County Dunn, Ireland, son of James and Elizabeth (Murphy) Lundy. James, Sr., was a cattle dealer, who came from Ireland to Canada, then to the United States, where he died in New Richmond at the home of his son. John attended common school in Ireland and went to Hudson at the age of fifteen years. After working there six years, he came to New Richmond with his brother James, Jr. Here they bought 160 acres of land, generously deeding forty acres back to their parents. Together they broke the land and built a house and barns. Their principal crop is oats, but they also raise wheat and breed Durham cattle, Poland China hogs and barred Plymouth Rock fowls. John Lundy was married November 17, 1866, to Mary McNamara, who died December 22, 1906. Her parents, James and Mary (Slagen) McNamara, were prominent farmers of Richmond. Mr. Lundy is a staunch Democrat and a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters. The family faith is that of the Catholic church. There are five children living: Lizzie, after teaching at Emerald and Glenwood, now has a fine position at Warren; Mamie gave up the millinery business to keep house for her father; Alice attends the Normal school at River Falls, and John H. and Nellie are at home. Three died in infancy. It has been Mr. Lundy's aim to give all of his children a good education, and in this he has succeeded.

**James McFetridge** was born in Ireland, April 15, 1849. His father, James, married to Mary McBresnahan, moved to Pennsylvania in 1850 and worked in a lumber and sawmill for three years. He received three more years' experience in the same line at St. Joseph, St. Croix county, Wis., and then bought a farm in Somerset, in the same county. This he occupied ten years until the time of his death. James, Jr., received a common school education and then took up farming. After thoroughly mastering

all the details of farm life he decided to venture into the business for himself. Accordingly, in 1883, he bought a farm of 240 acres. To this he speedily added forty more, making in all 280 acres in the town of Richmond.

Mr. McFetridge was married to Margaret Carl, of Canada, who proved a thrifty and devoted companion. Four children have blessed this union. Ray, a Richmond farmer, married Lucy Foreman. Elizabeth was graduated from the New Richmond, Wis., High school and is now a teacher herself. Daniel and William work at home on the farm. Mr. McFetridge is a staunch Republican and attends the Episcopal church. For fifteen years he has been a member of the school board. Of this body he is one of the progressive members, and his vote and his voice are always for the best interests of the educational advancement of the town. He is a worthy example of those men, who coming from the old country in the early days, devoted their brains and their strength to the upbuilding and development of this fertile valley.

**William S. McHenry** was born in Ontario, Canada, August 10, 1861, son of John and Sarah (Leverdy) McHenry, of Belfast, Ireland. In early life, John McHenry was a sailor and then he worked twenty-two years at lumbering in Canada. He came to St. Croix county in 1865, and May 20 of that year bought 320 acres of land, upon which he farmed until 1886, when he moved to New Richmond, Wis., and spent his days in retirement until his death, August 6, 1896. William S. received a common school education at the schools of Richmond, Wis., and then farmed it with his father for seven years. Then he went south, and for three and a half years he was a sheep ranger at Eagle Pass, the point of entry between Texas and Mexico. After this he returned to Richmond township and traded his father's farm for the farm upon which he lives at present. Upon this farm he built a house and barns, and made all improvements. He carries on a general diversified farming. Mr. McHenry was married June 2, 1891, to Mary Agnes Hogan, daughter of Philip and Katherine (Kavanaugh) Hogan. Her father was one of the early settlers and lived in this section during the latter years of his life until his death, in 1884. Mr. and Mrs. McHenry have five children. Agnes and Katherine are at the New Richmond High school, Irene and Grace attend the lower grades and Robert, twin brother of Grace, died in infancy. Mr. McHenry has been treasurer of the school board sixteen years, and served as town treasurer one term. He is an independent voter, and belongs to the Modern Woodmen and the Catholic Order of Foresters. The family worships at the Catholic church. Mr. McHenry takes great pride in his farm and works early and late to keep it in its present state

of perfection. He is well thought of by all his neighbors and the family is also well regarded throughout the township.

**Arthur J. Mackin,** son of L. M. and Betsy (Fuller) Mackin, was born July 4, 1854, at Kinnickinnic, St. Croix county, Wis. L. M. Mackin learned the carriage-makers' trade in New York state. He lived for a time in North Madison, Lake county, Ohio, before coming here. The eighty acres which he originally purchased at Hudson, he traded for 160 acres at Kinnickinnic. This he traded later for 160 acres at Richmond, where he followed farming until his death, September 31, 1907. He was an assessor and a member of the town and school boards. Arthur J. Mackin attended the public schools and then worked on his father's farm until he was twenty-one years of age. In 1881, in partnership with F. P. Davis, he bought 200 acres, which they developed together. After raising wheat for six or seven years they sold this property, and in the early '90s purchased the 200 acres where Mr. Mackin now resides. Their best crop is flax, but they also raise oats, wheat, barley, corn and rye. They breed grade Jerseys, shorthorn cattle, and Plymouth Rock fowls. At the present time a barn, valued at $2,500 is in the course of construction. Mr. Mackin is the third partner in the general store at Boardman, under the firm name of Spence, Davis & Co. He was married, September 3, 1879, to Ida E., the oldest of the nine children of Samuel L. and Jane E. (Spence) Beebe. Her father served as assessor for a number of years and was a member of the town and school boards. He lived until June 14, 1905. His wife died April 9, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Mackin have had six children: Avis B., died at the age of nine; Samuel L., a graduate of the Hamline university, is engaged in teaching; Bessie A. died at two years; Ida E. is a senior at the New Richmond High school, and James Arthur and John Howard are students at the same institution. Mr., Mrs. and Samuel L. are members of the Methodist church. Mr. Mackin is also connected with the I. O. O. F. and the Woodmen. He is an exponent of education and one of Boardman's leading citizens.

**Michael Murray** was born in Ireland, in 1840, son of Michael and Mary Murray. He attended the common schools of Ireland and then came to America with his parents, landing in New York city in 1867. In 1876 he came to Richmond township, Wisconsin, and raised wheat and oats upon eighty acres, which he purchased. In 1880 he bought forty acres more, and to this, in 1892, he added 160 acres. In 1899 he bought another 160 acres adjoining the place, and still later he purchased a house and half a block on Third and Fourth streets in New Richmond city. He now raises a general crop and breeds Jersey, Durham and Holstein cattle.

Mr. Murray was married October 23, 1872, at Hackensack, N. J., to Ellen, daughter of Michael and Ellen Dunn, natives of Ireland. This union resulted in nine children: Michael, Jr., Annie, James, Nellie, Will, John, Frank, Walter and Ervin.

**Thomas P. Phillips** is one of those men to whom the term substantial citizen may well be applied. He was born in Richmond township, December 9, 1872, his parents being Thomas and Bridget (Mulrooney) Phillips, who came to St. Croix county from Ireland in 1868. Thomas, Sr., was a carpenter by trade, but in coming to New Richmond he became a farmer. He died in 1905. His wife still survives and makes her home with her children. Thomas P. Phillips has spent the larger part of his life on his farm of 100 acres, which is well improved and where a well-kept home and neat buildings testify to his progressiveness and prosperity. He carries on a general farming business. On the fifth day of June, 1906, he was married to Nora McCabe, daughter of George and Mary (Donahue) McCabe. He has no children. Mr. Phillips is a Democrat and in 1908 was elected chairman of the town board. He also served on the school board for nine years and is a popular member of the Catholic Order of Foresters. All public movements have a warm supporter in Mr. Phillips. He and his family occupy an enviable place in the life of the community, where they are regarded as leaders in all efforts for the elevation of their fellow beings.

**Alexander Russell** was born July 6, 1838, son of Henry and Sally Russell. Henry, the father, was born in Vermont, Ludlow county. For many years he was a shoemaker. In 1852 he came to Richmond township and purchased 1,100 acres, where the city of New Richmond now stands. Together with his sons he broke and improved much of this land, and then offered building lots free to anyone who would locate within what are now the city limits of New Richmond. This offer was gladly taken by hundreds of persons, and a thriving little city was soon the result. Henry Russell followed the various occupations of farming, blacksmithing, wagonmaking, stone quarrying and lime burning and died in 1879, after having served on both the town and the school boards many years. His wife lived until 1898, and died at the age of ninety-six years. Alexander Russell received a common school education. He farmed and worked with his father and brothers until 1877, when he bought 240 acres in Richmond township, carrying on a general line of farming. He was a breeder of Shorthorn, Durham and Jersey cattle. In 1887 he sold this farm to his brother, who continued farming on it until his death. The farm is now conducted by his widow.

Mr. Russell was married September 18, 1866, to Susan, daughter of William and Betsy Egbert, of Hammond, Wis. William

was a Methodist Episcopal clergyman. Both are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Russell had one girl, born in New Richmond, and died in infancy. Since twelve years of age Mr. Russell has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a staunch Prohibitionist.

The Russell family consisted of the father and mother, and eight brothers and sisters, of whom Alexander Russell is one. They were, in the order of their birth: Charles, killed in the woods in the state of Illinois; Dianna, married to R. Atwood, a prominent farmer of Illinois; Lyda, who died in Illinois at the age of twenty; Marcelle, married to Joseph Johnson, a lumberman on the Black river; Salome, who died in the Union army of typhoid fever at the siege of Vicksburg; Alexander, Jefferson, who died at home at the age of twenty, and Austin, who died in infancy.

**Thomas Spence** was born in Canada, December 8, 1848, a son of John and Eliza (Burrows) Spence. John Spence was born in England and came to Canada in the early days. He was an officer in the Canadian army. In 1861 he came to Boardman, St. Croix county, Wis., and purchased eighty acres of land, which he broke and where he made all improvements. Upon this farm he died when Thomas was eleven years of age. Thomas received a common school education. When he was twenty-six years of age he purchased 200 acres of land in the same township, and for the next few years he spent his time in breaking, grubbing and developing this land. He built a large house and roomy barns, until the farm was in a high state of development in every way. Upon this farm he has continued to live, doing diversified farming. Mr. Spence was married in January, 1873, to Emma, the daughter of Sylvester and Jane (Briggs) Spencer, well known residents of Boardman. This union has been blessed with four children: Minnie, the oldest daughter, married W. R. Luce, a farmer in Somerset township, Wisconsin; Myrtle, a milliner and bookkeeper at St. Paul, Minn., married William Lipke, an iron architect; Martha, a dress-maker, is at home; Margaret was graduated from the New Richmond High school and is now a teacher. Mr. Spence is a Republican in politics and the family worships at the Methodist Episcopal church. For eight years he has been treasurer of the school board. Mr. Spence is one of those men who can always be depended upon under all circumstances, and when his word is once given he never goes back upon it. He is liberal and progressive and is a fine type of solid, substantial citizenship.

**George Spence** is manager and part owner of the large general store at Boardman. He was born in Ontario, Canada, March 22, 1850. His father, John, married to Eliza Burrowes, served as

an army officer in Canada and came to Richmond in 1856. He followed farming until the time of his death. After leaving school, George took up milling and farming in 1874 at Boardman. On July 2 of the same year he married Beda, one of the eight children of Levi and Betsy A. (Fuller) Mackin, of Boardman. By this union there are two children: Mary E., a student at Hamline university, and Louise E., a graduate of the River Falls Normal school. She is married to the Rev. J. W. Chariton, a Methodist clergyman, who was graduated from Hamline university. The Rev. and Mrs. Chariton have one child. In 1900 Mr. Spence started the Boardman store, as senior member of the firm of Spence, Davis & Mackin. This store carried $6,000 worth of stock, consisting of hardware, groceries, crockery, grains, etc. In this store is located the Boardman postoffice. The company carries on a large milling and farming business and buys grain for the New Richmond Rolling Mill Company. Aside from his interest in the company, Mr. Spence owns forty acres surrounding his home, also a 120-acre farm. He is a prohibitionist and a member of the Good Templars. The family worships at the Baptist and Methodist churches. Mr. Spence has been successful in all his undertakings and is known as a man of lofty ideals and unswerving integrity. Since the above was in type Mr. Spence died, December 10, 1908.

**Richard Wears** died November 21, 1895, but his memory will long be held in loving and honored regard by all with whom he came in contact. He was born in London, England, in October, 1845, son of George and Charlotte (Harris) Wears. George was a prominent English office holder. The family came to New York in 1854 and in that state young Richard completed his education. Later they moved to Hudson, and Richard began his career by working on the Dayton farm. His next field of labor was Boardman. Later he settled at Richmond, where he spent the remainder of his life. He developed sixty acres and erected buildings. Upon this farm his father and mother spent their remaining days and passed away. In 1883 Mr. Wears was married to Eva M. Gross, daughter of a Baptist clergyman. The ceremony was performed at Lakeland, Minn., on the fifth day of November. Mrs. Wears proved an able helpmeet, and her hard work, encouragement and sympathy as a wife, together with her loving care and sterling qualities as a mother, have been an important influence toward winning for the family the position it now occupies. Mr. Wears voted the Republican ticket and affiliated with the I. O. O. F. He served as road master and member of the school board many years. For twenty-one years he devoted his life to farming, raising principally wheat and other grains. He died November 21, 1895, leaving besides his widow, five children.

They are: Grace and Charlotte, milliners; Richard, a carpenter by trade, who lives at home, and Elizabeth and Harry, who are at home and at school. All the children have been given good educations and are well thought of.

## RUSH RIVER TOWNSHIP.

What is now Rush River township was settled shortly after the settlement at the mouth of the Willow river, now known as Hudson, and is therefore the second oldest settlement in the county. The township includes the eastern half of township 28, range 17, and was settled in 1850. Among the early settlers were Daniel McCartney, Amos Babcock, Joseph King, Stephen Claggit, and Z. Travis. The town was set off from Kinnickinnic and organized in 1851, with Daniel McCartney as chairman of the board of supervisors. The first election was held at his home. The town is composed of rich farm land, is drained by the Rush river and has two villages, Warner and New Centerville. It is in the southern part of the county and is bounded by Hammond, Eau Galle and Pleasant Valley townships, and by Pierce county. Its early importance was due to the fact that it was crossed by the old Hudson and Prairie du Chien stage route and was one of the resting places for travelers along that route. The township contains 11,501 acres, valued at an average of $36.25, which is among the highest average values in farm land in the county. It has 300 horses, valued at $18,000; 1,030 neat cattle, valued at $14,420; 160 sheep, valued at $480, and 60 swine, valued at $300, from which it will quite easily be seen that dairying is an important industry. The total valuation of real estate is $424,400, total of personal property, $46,400, making a grand total of $470,800. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in Rush River township in 1908: Wheat, 90; corn, 290; oats, 2,472; barley, 257; rye, 28; flaxseed, 263; potatoes, 36; sugar beets, 1; tobacco, 15; hay, 1,458; timber, 500.

**Mads Nelson,** one of the prominent farmers of Rush River township, was born in Skien, Norway, April 17, 1853, his parents being Christian and Carrie Olson Nelson. Mr. Nelson was educated in the public schools of his native land and came to America in 1871, settling in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, where he lived nearly two years before moving to St. Croix county, where he has since resided. He arrived in Rush River township in the autumn of 1872 and on January 17, 1873, he was married to Martina Miller, daughter of Bastian and Telephine Miller. They were the parents of two children: Hilda Telephine Nelson married Edward Christensen, a prominent farmer of Eau Galle, Wis. Horace Christian Nelson married Dena Peterson, daughter of Mr.

and Mrs. John Peterson, then residents of Eau Galle, Wis., now living in Eau Claire, Wis. Mads Nelson is a member of the Lutheran Synod church and is treasurer of the Lutheran church society of Rush River. In politics he has always been identified with the Republican party and has served Rush River township as a side supervisor for ten years. He has also occupied several positions on the school board. In 1906 Mr. Nelson abandoned farming to engage in the general merchandise business in the town of Baldwin, which he conducted for two years and then sold his stock of goods and good will to return to the management of his farm, which comprises 140 acres, most of which is under cultivation and devoted to the raising of live stock and small grain. Christian Nelson, the father of our subject, came to America in 1881, and came directly to St. Croix county, where he resided until his death. He was born August 14, 1821, his parents being Jens and Marie Nelson. He married in Norway, where all of his six children were born and reared, and where one, Mrs. Maria Christenson, still resides. The wife died in Norway in 1880, and shortly after her death Mr. Nelson decided to follow his son Mads to America. He was a member of the Lutheran Synod church and in politics a Republican. He died in Rush River August 3, 1905.

## SOMERSET TOWNSHIP.

Somerset township occupies sections 1 to 18 inclusive of township 30, range 19, two sections of township 30, range 20, and all of township 31, range 19, lying east of the St. Croix river. It is the largest township in the county, covering no less than 31,866 square acres with an average valuation of $15.32. It is the most northwestern of the townships of the county and is bounded by Star Prairie, Richmond and St. Joseph townships, Polk county and the St. Croix river. It is drained by Apple river and small creeks flowing into the St. Croix. The surface is generally undulating but along the St. Croix and Apple rivers abrupt and hilly. The first settlers were French colonists at Apple River Falls, in 1851. They built a schoolhouse and a Catholic church upon the bluffs below the falls. The falls of the Apple river, about one and a half miles above its junction with the St. Croix, is one of the finest of the Wisconsin waterfalls. The township was organized September 19, 1856, with Thomas J. Chappell as chairman of supervisors. Mr. Chappell was also appointed postmaster at Apple River Falls in 1854. The township is crossed by a railroad in the southern part. Its village, Somerset village, is located in the central part. The people of Somerset township have 495 horses, valued at $29,700; 2,390 cattle, valued at $33,460; 810 sheep and lambs, valued at $2,430; 370 swine, valued at $1,850.

The real estate is valued at $516,500; personal property at $507,700, making a total valuation of $1,024,200. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in Somerset township in 1908: Wheat, 347; corn, 1,148; oats, 4,970; barley, 512; rye, 727; flaxseed, 26½; potatoes, 90; hay, 2,287.

Somerset village, located on Apple river, contains a population of 428; has a Catholic church, two general stores, two blacksmith shops, a wagon-maker, one drug store, one grocery, one hotel, with saloon attachment; and another saloon, one millinery store, one feed mill and a restaurant, with saloon attached.

**Father Eugene Caron** is a typical young village priest, loved by the members of his parish and revered and respected by the members of other denominations. He has fought his own way in the world, and has now won a position where the responsibilities are such that they are usually given to a much older and more experienced man. The success that he has achieved and the friends that he has made are entirely due to his hard work, his winning personality, and above all, his devotion to the cause to which he has consecrated his life. Father Caron was born in Kankakee county, Illinois, in December, 1879, a son of George and Georgiana (Fraser) Caron, who were of French-Canadian extraction. They went to Kankakee in the early days and continued farming there until the time of their death. Father Caron attended the primary schools of Kankakee and later entered St. Viateur's college at Bourbonnais, Ill., where he finished in 1902. He studied one year at the St. Francis seminary at Milwaukee, Wis., and then took a three years' theological course at the Grand Seminary at Montreal, Canada. The consummation of his efforts was realized June 24, 1906, when he was ordained a priest of God, by the Right Rev. A. F. Schinner, D. D., at Superior, Wis. During his studies Father Caron had to work his own way through the various schools, he being left an orphan at an early age. Before entering college he worked for a time in a drug store in Chicago, for the purpose of raising funds to help him in obtaining the education that he so much desired. His first parish was at Bruce, Wis., where he was pastor of St. Mary's church and its dependent missions. One year later he took charge of St. Ann's Roman Catholic church at Somerset, St. Croix county, Wis., a position that has never before been given to so young a man. The parish consists of about 200 families. Father Caron is a man of scholarly attainments and at the same time is progressive and well abreast of the trend of modern thought. In the pulpit he is eloquent and in his intimate parish work he is a wise counselor and sympathetic friend. His work in the parish has been blessed with success, and the field has prospered under his pastorate.

**Alex. Germain** is of the third generation of a prominent family of Somerset, St. Croix county, Wis. grandfather, father and son all having won success and honor here. He was born in Somerset village, February 18, 1874, a son of Zephere and Elizabeth (Parnell) Germain. His parents and grandparents came from Canada in the early days when this section of the country was practically a wilderness. They took up land, which they broke and improved, and before many years they saw the rich soil blooming with heavy crops, while the pastures and meadows teemed with live stock. The father is still living, and after a life of hard work and successful effort is now residing in retirement, reaping the reward of a well earned rest. Like the other boys of his age in those days, young Alex. attended the common schools and then worked with his father several years. In 1899 he went to Valparaiso, Ind., and studied pharmacy, graduating August 15, 1901, with high honors. While at college he studied hard and was well liked by both faculty and students. Returning to Somerset, he established a drug store, erecting the building in which the business is located. He also owns the adjoining confectionery store. Mr. Germain is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and attends the Catholic church.

**Hudson S. Harriman,** for fourteen years postmaster at Somerset, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, was born in Orland, Me., May 15, 1833. His parents, Nathaniel and Drusella (Saunders) Harriman, were natives of that state. Nathaniel followed farming and was also a millwright. He died in 1882. Hudson S. went to the common schools and then spent his time farming and in a sawmill. In 1856 he came to Somerset, and with his brother, Samuel, he opened a sawmill on Apple river, where they conducted a logging, sawmill and farming business. They built the hotel at Somerset in 1876. Two years previous to this, in 1874, they had started a general store in that township. This store was sold in 1884 to H. A. Lagranduer. It was during this partnership that Hudson S. Harriman enlisted in the Union army. He served in Company F, First Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, which he joined September 14, 1861. His commanding officers were Colonel Stockweather and Captain Samuels. Owing to disability he was discharged June 24, 1862, at Columbia, Tenn. Returning to Wisconsin he wooed and won Mrs. Marcia A. Briggs, daughter of John H. and Martha A. (Andrus) Palmer, of Maine and Wisconsin. The ceremony was performed May 31, 1863. Mrs. Harriman's father died at Amery, Wis., November 26, 1895.

Although he had been declared disabled, Mr. Harriman was drafted November 3, 1864, and consigned to Company E, Seventeenth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers. He was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., July 14, 1865. In 1866 he bought forty acres of

land in Somerset township, which he broke and improved, raising mostly wheat and oats. Mr. Harriman is a Republican. He has been town chairman and treasurer. Mr. and Mrs. Harriman have no children of their own, but an adopted daughter and a niece, who have spent their whole life with them, have received the care that would have been given to children of their own. Martha A., the adopted daughter, married J. M. Peters, a carpenter at Arcadia, Neb. The niece, Effie Tenquest, has been a stenographer at St. Paul, Minn., seven years. Mr. Harriman has always been a hard working man and is honored for the influence he has had in the affairs of the township. As postmaster he was affable and accommodating, and his long service in that capacity gave him a wide knowledge of the county and its people.

**H. A. La Granduer** was born in Somerset township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, June 4, 1860, son of Edward and Lenora (Rock) La Granduer, natives of Sorel and Montreal, Canada. The father was an orphan and settled in Somerset in 1856, becoming a farmer. In earlier life he had worked at logging in and about Stillwater, Minn., and was captain of a Mississippi boat for two years. He died at Somerset in 1898. Of his family of four children three are now dead. They were Edward W., Alfred and Josephine. H. A. La Granduer was the youngest of the family. He was educated first in the public schools of this county and then at Northfield, Minn. Entering the University of Wisconsin in Madison, with the intention of taking a full course he was compelled to leave on account of ill health after remaining two years. For a time he clerked at a store in Stillwater, afterward taking a vacation, traveling through Canada and the eastern states. Upon his return he bought out Sam Harriman's general store at Somerset. Mr. Harriman, as mentioned in another place in this volume, was an old settler and a man active in public affairs. Since 1884 Mr. La Granduer has run his store with great success. He carries a general line of goods and commands custom for many miles around. The establishment is a large one, and carries about $25,000 worth of hardware, men's furnishings, dry goods, meats, etc. In this store the village postoffice is located. In 1907 he took H. J. Hensen as his partner. In addition to the store, the firm owns four cheese factories in various parts of the county. The business is now conducted under the name of the La Granduer Mercantile Company, incorporated. In 1885, Mr. La Granduer was married to Donattie Derouin, from Three Rivers, Canada. The union has been blessed with six children. H. J. is now attending the State university at Madison; A. J. is a student at St. John's university, Collegeville, Minn. Rose is engaged as bookkeeper and stenographer in her father's store. She is a graduate of St. Cath-

erine's at St. Paul. Donald is a student at the St. Benedict academy, St. Joseph, Minn. Cora and Alice are still at home. Mr. La Granduer votes the Republican ticket. He was seven years treasurer of the township of Somerset and twenty years postmaster in the village. He is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters, and the family worships at the Catholic church. Being a man of wide education and learning himself, he is a thorough believer in education, and he is expending a fortune in giving his children educational advantages. The children are all bright and gifted, and are a credit to their parents. As a business man he has been most successful, and few men in the township are better known, better liked or more highly regarded than he.

**R. S. Luce** was born in Virgil, Cortland county, N. Y., in the month of March, 1828, a son of Stedman and Polly (Barnum) Luce, who lived and died in the East. He received a common school education in the schools of Potter county, Pennsylvania, and learned the trades of mason and carpenter. He also worked on the farm with his father. In 1866 he came to Boardman, St. Croix county, Wis., and stayed for a time. Then he went to St. Joseph township, same county, in 1874, and bought eighty acres, which he broke and upon which he made all improvements, and erected houses and barns. He carries on general farming. Mr. Luce was married November 15, 1856, to Orrilla, daughter of Orlando and Lucy Farrand, the former of whom was a mason in New York state. This union has been blessed with twelve children. Alice S. died in infancy. Nellie R. married Amos Fetterly, of Kansas. Nettie E. died at three years; George B. died at thirteen years, and Meretta died at eight years. Webb R. married Minnie Spence, and is a farmer in Somerset township, Wisconsin. Estella O. married John Dorgan, of New Richmond, Wis. Laura E. died at six months. Maude E. married Ernst Krevinghaus, a carpenter. Linnie Maud married Norris Annis, a photographer; Warren M. married Maggie Kane and Ronald S., named for his father, is at home. Mr. Luce himself is one of five children. He is a member of the school board, and his services in that capacity have always been worthy of praise. Mr. Luce is a Seventh Day Baptist and votes the Republican ticket. He has been a hard worker all his life and both he and his family have the respect of all who know them.

**E. B. Rehder** came to this country at the age of five years. He is a native of Germany, where he was born in Holstein in 1861, son of John and Dora (Cordum) Rehder. The former was born in 1821 and died in 1893. The latter was born in 1824 and died in 1906, both deaths having occurred on the farm in Somerset. E. B. Rehder has been a farmer for the greater part of his life. He owns 160 acres of land in Somerset, twenty acres of

which are heavily timbered. He has made all the improvements himself and has a fine farm, upon which he carries on a general farming business, making a specialty of breeding short horn cattle. For a number of years he has made a success of handling and selling farm implements and machinery of all kinds. A Republican in politics he has served with credit as chairman of the supervisors of the town of Somerset for several years. He is a member of the Sons of Herman. In 1889, Mr. Rehder married Martha Wiggie, who died three years later. In 1896 he was married to Mary Schultz. The four children, Carl, Elsie, Erna and Ernest, live at home. With Christ Schafer, Mr. Rehder established the first coöperative creamery in this county.

## SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP.

Springfield is one of the eastern tier of the townships of St. Croix county. It is bounded by Glenwood, Baldwin and Cady townships and Dunn county. Originally covered with timber it is now a fine farming country. It includes at the present time township 29, range 15, covers an area of 22,822 acres with an average valuation of $18.69 an acre. Its creeks flow in all directions, its slightly elevated land forming a watershed from which the waters gradually find their way to the Mississippi on one side and the Great Lakes on the other. At its organization, in 1860, Springfield embraced all of that which it now includes and also Baldwin, set off in 1872. Most of the early settlers were Union soldiers, among them being S. T. Adams, Thomas Ross, Isaac Burgitt and Captain Rogers. Springfield was organized November 15, 1860, with J. R. Ismon as chairman, and the Messrs. Perrin and Hall as supervisors. It is crossed in the southern part by the railroad and has two thriving villages, Hersey and Wilson. There are in the township 540 horses, valued at $32,400; 2,700 neat cattle, valued at $37,800; 830 sheep and lambs, valued at $2,490; 220 swine, valued at $1,100. The total value of real estate is $468,300; of personal property, $118,800, making a total of $587,100. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in Springfield township in 1908: Wheat, 10; corn, 421; oats, 2,192; barley, 993; rye, 21; flaxseed, 100; potatoes, 42; sugar beets, 32; apple trees, 69; hay, 3,261.

**J. A. Bradley** is a native of Kinnickinnic township, St. Croix county, born October 22, 1854, son of David and Sarah Bradley. The father was a native of New York state, and the mother of Pennsylvania. The former ran a sawmill in his native state and then came west in the early days, locating at Hudson, Wis., where he engaged in carpentering for a short time. He afterward took up school land in Kinnickinnic township, in St. Croix

county, farming there nearly all his life. He died at the home of his son, J. A., at the good old age of ninety-five years. J. A. was educated in his native county and then began farming at home, also working in a sawmill and in the lumber woods. In 1867 he came to Springfield township and bought land, being one of the very first settlers. Upon the acres which he originally took up he has since continued to live, with the exception of three years, when he ran a hotel at Gillman, Wis. He owns 120 acres of land, nearly all of which is cultivated. The farm is one of the finest places in the township. The house is one that would do credit to the residence districts of any city, and is made of brick, while the barns and other buildings are commodious and well equipped. He carries on a general line of farming, making a specialty of dairy farming. Being the owner of twenty cows he has large quantities of dairy products and sells cream to the Farmers' Coöperative creamery at Hersey, in this township, in which company he is at present a stockholder and ex-officer. September 2, 1890, Mr. Bradley was married to Bertha Tanberg, daughter of Chris and Maret Tanberg, natives of Norway, who came to the United States in 1866, settling first at Gillman, Pierce county, and later in Spring Valley, where they still reside. Mr. and Mrs. Bradley have an adopted son, Milton G. Mr. Bradley is a Republican in politics. He has held office on the town board, being treasurer of the township four years. Mr. Bradley has been a hard working man all his life and has been uniformly successful in his undertakings.

**Peter Brunner** is one of the real pioneers of this section, having known what it was to live in a log cabin and to do by hand work which is now largely performed by machinery. He was born in Pierce county, August 14, 1859, son of John and Lena (Kienholtz) Brunner, natives of Switzerland, who came to the United States in the early '50s. They were married at Red Wing, Minn., and then crossed the river to Pierce county, where they carried on pioneer farming. They only had one bull for a beast of burden, and carried most of their produce on their backs. Before the war the father again crossed the river to Red Wing and spent the remainder of his life there, passing away in 1907. The mother died in 1896. Peter received an education in the common schools and learned farming with his father. One of young Peter's duties was to milk the only cow on the place, and in this way he acquired the knowledge of dairying which he has used in the extensive operations in that line which he has since conducted. He remained on the farm with the old folks many years, until in 1882 he decided to seek his fortune in Springfield township, St. Croix county. Two years later he purchased 160 acres of land here, which he has broke and improved. He

erected a log cabin and lived there for eighteen years. He now has a commodious barn, 40x70 feet and a house 30 feet square, furnished in modern style. Upon his rich acres he carries on a general farming business, doing considerable dairying and selling large quantities of cream. In 1884, the year that he came here, Mr. Brunner married Ida Barney, by whom he has ten children: Joseph (deceased), Albert, Fred, John, Myra, Jessie, Evelyn, Muriel, Ella and Harold. Mr. Brunner is a Republican in politics and has been a member of the side board, also a road commissioner. He has always labored well, and owes his success to his hard work. His neighbors throughout the township speak in highest terms of his thrift, ability and character.

**W. E. Canedy** comes of good old Vermont stock, being born in that state, October 6, 1850, a son of Milo and Mary (Raymond) Canedy, who moved to New York state in the early days. W. E. received his early education in the public schools of New York, after which he began farming in Oswego county, in that state. In 1877, he came to Wisconsin and settled in Hammond township, digging wells for two years. He then went to Pipe Stone city, Minn., remaining another two years. He subsequently returned to St. Croix county and took up his residence in Springfield township, where he has since remained. He bought 160 acres and now has 100 of this under the plow. Mr. Canedy was one of the first settlers of this locality, and in neighborly spirit he gave his services and assistance to men who are now prosperous farmers in this vicinity, but who at that time were struggling pioneers. Mr. Canedy cleared his place and broke the land, not a tree having been cut on the farm when he took possession of it. He now does general farming, his place being equipped with all the latest improvements and modern machinery, including a gasoline engine for pumping water, grinding feed, etc. He owns a large number of cattle and conducts an extensive line of dairying. As he looks over his rich acres, Mr. Canedy often thinks of those early days when he killed deer and wild cats on his farm, and heard the howling of wolves on the hillsides. Mr. Canedy was married March 12, 1868, to Emma M. Baker, daughter of James A. and Nancy (Brownell) Baker, of Oswego county, New York. This union was blessed with one son, James E. He married Laura Cuturia, and has three children: Ellamae, born February 13, 1896; Adry B., born June 13, 1900, and Isabella, born February 23, 1905. Mrs. W. E. Canedy died June 1, 1903, greatly mourned by all who knew her. James has always lived at home and now assists his father in running the farm. Mr. Canedy is an independent voter and has served as chairman of the township.

He has also been a member of the side board. His name is

highly regarded, and he is noted as a good neighbor and able farmer. The family attends the Methodist church.

**J. P. Fetherspil** is a native of Luxenberg, France, born August 9, 1851, son of N. D. and Margaret (Haber) Fetherspil, both now deceased. The parents came to the United States in 1854 and settled at Port Washington, Wis., for a short time, afterward moving to Minneapolis, Minn. Here the father took up labor as a mechanic-blacksmith, and did work, mostly hand wrought, for the first five steam sawmills in Minneapolis. J. P. was educated in Minneapolis, receiving both a German and English education, with some instruction in Norwegian also. Upon leaving school he took up work with his father until eighteen years of age, when he began the business of manufacturing plows at Minneapolis, where he remained six years, doing both wood and iron work. He then engaged as inspector and contractor of the St. Paul Plow Company, of which he was one of the stockholders. April 2, 1896, he came to Springfield township and settled upon his present farm of eighty acres, about half of which is under the plow. He made many improvements and built a fine barn. Mr. Fetherspil now carries on diversified farming. His cream is handled by the Coöperative creamery at Hersey, this township, in which he has an interest. He is also known far and wide as a grower and dealer in ginseng, which he has gathered in the woods for many years, thus adding materially to the income derived from the farm. He owns a fine ginseng garden. Mr. Fetherspil was married in 1883 to Ella Barry, of Little Falls, N. Y., daughter of John Barry, of that place. This union has been blessed with four children, Josephine E., Ella, Florence and Albert A. Josephine E. is the wife of Francis Kirby, of Dunn county, Wisconsin, and the other two are Ella and Florence.

Mr. Fetherspil is a Democrat in politics, but has never held public office, choosing rather to devote his time and abilities to his family and his work. He attends the Catholic church, and is a fine example of a successful farmer, being a good citizen and a hospitable neighbor.

**Thomas Mulvaney** is a native of Canada, born April 11, 1848, son of Matthew and Catherine (Curn) Mulvaney, who came from Canada to Dunn county, Wisconsin, in 1870, and followed farming until the time of their death. Thomas received his early education in the common schools of Canada and then spent several years in the lumber woods of Michigan. In 1872 he came to St. Croix county and took up a homestead claim of eighty acres of wild timber land in Springfield township. To this he has added from time to time until he now owns, adjoining the village of Wilson on the south, 200 acres, all of which he stumped,

cleared, broke and improved himself, doing the earlier work with the assistance of his oxen. He now carries on a general farming. Mr. Mulvaney was married in 1872, the same year that he came here, to Ellen Purtill, by whom he has seven children: James, John, Thomas, Margaret, Matthew, Ellen and Ida. James is a road operator, John owns a homestead in North Dakota, Thomas is timekeeper for a company on the iron range, and the rest of the children are at home. Mr. Mulvaney is a Democrat in politics and has served as school treasurer several years. He is a member of the American Society of Equity and attends the Catholic church. He has made all by hard work and has been very successful. He is known far and wide as a man of honor and his name has been a respected one in the community for many years.

**Nels Swanson,** landing in the United States practically without a cent and with few prospects, now owns 220 acres of as good land as is to be found in Springfield township, and his present affluence he owes entirely to his own hard work and unfailing industry. Nels was born in Sweden in the month of November, 1844, a son of Swense and Grinella Swanson, who lived and died in the old country. He received a good common school education and worked with his father until 1869, when he came to the United States via Quebec, Canada. He arrived at St. Paul and obtained work on the railroad, being sent first to Mankato, Minn., where he remained for one and a half years. He then went to Eau Claire, Wis., and continued the same occupation, spending his time largely in railroading until 1875, when he located on his present farm in Springfield township. He at first owned forty acres, which he has increased until now, in company with his son, Simon, he owns 220 acres of good land in a high stage of cultivation. When he came here he settled in the woods, and in clearing the land he sold cord wood to the first railroad that came through this part of the country. He has continued to make improvements until he now has a good house and comfortable barns, with all the equipment necessary for carrying on a good sized farming industry. The farm is now conducted by Mr. Swanson's sons, who raise the usual crops and breed some live stock and fowls, also doing some dairying.

Mr. Swanson was married in 1878 to Nellie Ellefson and has six children: Simon has an interest in his father's farm; Jane married Morris McGee; Oscar is at home; Anna and Lorena are both school teachers, and Herbert is at home. Mr. Swanson is a Republican in politics and has served as treasurer of the school board in district No. 6 for fifteen years, being elected in 1886. He also served on the side board one year. The family are attendants of the Lutheran church.

## WILSON VILLAGE.

Wilson has a population of 260; Catholic, Lutheran and Methodist churches; one general store, and a similar establishment carrying agricultural implements; one bakery; one hotel; a creamery, and a blacksmith shop.

**Adam Frantz** is one of the most extensive stock buyers in the valley. He was born in Waukesha county, this state, August 14, 1856, son of Adam and Elizabeth Frantz, both natives of Germany. They came to the United States in 1850 and settled near Milwaukee, Wis., where the father followed farming until the time of his death. Adam received his education in the common schools of Waukesha county and then combined farming and stock raising until 1879, when he purchased land in Springfield township. Here he has since continued to reside, owning 640 acres in this and Pierce county. He developed a part of his land and raises general crops, but the greater portion is devoted to pasturing purposes. For fifteen years past he has been extensively engaged in buying, shipping and feeding stock, using from $20,000 to $30,000 annually in his transactions. Aside from his large stock and land interests, he owns a handsome home adjoining the village of Wilson. Mr. Frantz was married in 1883 to Rachael Brahm, now deceased. By this union there is one child, Rosie, who lives with her grandparents in Waukesha county and attends school there. He was married again in 1900 to Mary O'Donnell, by whom he has two children, Elizabeth and Harvey.

Mr. Frantz is a Democrat in politics and chairman of the township of Springfield, a position which he has occupied with much credit for the past six years. He is a public spirited, successful man. He handles all the details of his large business with a sagacity and a knowledge of stock conditions that has made for him a moderate fortune and won the admiration of all his associates.

**A. C. Keenlyne**, genial proprietor of Hotel Keenlyne, at Wilson, Wis., was born in Winona, Minn., February 16, 1858, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Keenlyne, who died when their son was an infant. A. C. was brought up by his sister and attended the schools of Durand, Wis., where he received a common school education. He worked for some time in a stave and heading factory near Arkansas, and July 17, 1875, came to Wilson. For twenty years he was in the steady employ of the West Wisconsin Manufacturing Company, the latter twelve years as foreman of the extensive shipping department of that concern. In 1890 the milling business closed down, and purchasing a farm, Mr. Keenlyne farmed for six years afterward, trading his farm for the Wilson

hotel, the trade being made with the late J. A. Wilson. The subject of this sketch renamed the place "Hotel Keenlyne" and has since continued to run it. He is a first-class mechanic and has fitted up his house in good shape for the accommodation of the public. It is lighted with acetylene gas and heated with hot water. Here are the headquarters for the long distance telephone, of which Mr. Keenlyne is manager. The popularity of the hotel is due in a large degree to the culinary skill of Mrs. Keenlyne, whose reputation as a landlady has reached beyond the confines of the valley.

For some time he conducted a feed mill in connection with his hotel business, and in 1907 he turned the feed mill into a factory for the manufacture of egg cases, his long years at milling standing him in good stead in managing this venture, of which he has already made a pronounced success. He has a rapidly growing business, and business men predict that it will soon reach a very large scale.

Mr. Keenlyne was married in December, 1880, to Eunice Green, daughter of L. L. and Sarah Green, old settlers of Dunn county. Mr. Green was a veteran of the Civil war, who farmed in Sherman township, Dunn county. He is now deceased, having spent his declining years with his daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Keenlyne have two children, a son and a daughter. Theodore L. is a railroad fireman in the Iron Range mountains. Bertha graduated from the Glenwood High School and is employed as saleslady in a department store at Downing, Wis.

Mr. Keenlyne votes the Republican ticket, but has been too busy to run for office, although often urged to do so by his many friends. He affiliates with Hersey Lodge, No. 204, I. O. O. F. Mr. Keenlyne is an ideal hotel proprietor. Always smiling and good natured, he makes his guests feel thoroughly at home, and his endeavor is to run a first-class place in every respect. He has a wide circle of friends, both in town and among the traveling fraternity. He has always been a hard worker, and his efforts have met with considerable financial success.

**Col. George W. La Pointe** is a native of Monroe, Mich., born March 14, 1842, son of Joseph and Ellen (Trumbley) La Pointe. The father was a boat builder and mechanic. George W. received a good education in the public schools and remained in his native state until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted in the month of April, 1861, in Company D, Seventh Michigan Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Potomac under General McClellan. At the battle of Antietam, where half the regiment was disabled, he received his first commission, that of second lieutenant. He was then commissioned first lieutenant,

then captain, and later for distinguished valor was made colonel of the regiment. Among the important engagements in which the regiment participated were the following: Fair Oaks, Va.; York Town, Va.; Antietam, Md.; Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House, Cold Harbor, Petersburgh, Gettysburg and Fredericksburg, where the regiment led the forlorn hope across the river in pontoon boats. He took part in the grand review at Washington and was discharged in July, 1865. He then returned to Michigan and served in the express department of the customs office at Detroit for many years. In 1874 he settled in Wilson, Wis., and for five years engaged in the manufacture of staves and barrel heads. He then consolidated with the Western Wisconsin Manufacturing Company, combining his original industry with their general lumber manufacturing operations; also running a lime kiln for about twelve years. In 1890, owing to the rapid diminution of the lumber supply, the company ceased business. He then purchased the general store in Wilson, and added a wholesale and retail lumber yard, having ever since continued to run it with the assistance of his two sons. At various periods of its existence he has made additions to the business until he now carries a large stock and has a very large patronage, commanding trade for many miles around. The stock includes groceries, dry goods, implements, hardware, clothing, lumber, sash and doors and all kinds of building material, and, in fact, everything that is usually carried in a first class store of this kind. In 1906 he added a lime kiln to burn lime for local trade. His goods are of the finest quality, and farmers and housewives know from long experience that anything purchased from the La Pointe store will be exactly as represented. Colonel La Pointe was married in 1872 to Jane H. Wilson, daughter of Captain William Wilson, of Menomonie, Wis., a very prominent lumberman. By this union there are two children, George W., Jr., and William W. George W., Jr., was educated in the common schools and attended Shattuck school at Faribault, Minn., where he was graduated in 1892. He subsequently entered the law college of Cornell university, at Ithica, N. Y., and was graduated in the class of 1897, being shortly afterward admitted to the Wisconsin bar. Owing to his father's rapidly increasing business at Wilson, he never took up the practice of law, but engaged with his father in the management of the lumber department. William H. also attended common school and the academy at Faribault, and entered Cornell, but did not graduate. He is assisting in the lumber yard. Father and sons are staunch Republicans, but have never aspired to public office, having their hands full with the details of their extensive enterprises. Aside from the store, Colonel La Pointe owns about 1,000 acres of land in Dunn and St. Croix counties and has dealt ex-

tensively in real estate for the past twenty-five years. He also owns a handsome home in the village of Wilson. The La Pointes are well thought of and are interested in every movement that tends to the betterment of the community.

**S. L. Pickett, M. D.**, is a native of Wisconsin, born in Hartford, December 24, 1861, son of Samuel H. and Eliza (Multer) Pickett. The father was a native of Cattaraugus county, New York, and was a carpenter by trade. He came westward to Wisconsin in the early days and settled in Milwaukee county, and later in Hartford, Washington county, remaining there until 1872. In that year he came to Clark county, Wisconsin, and took up land, which he broke and improved. Samuel H. Pickett still continues to live on the old homestead. Samuel L. attended the common schools of Wisconsin, receiving his education in the winter months and assisting his father to clear land during the summer. He remained with his father until attaining his majority and then started teaching school. During his first year of teaching he took up the study of medicine, and after teaching two years he attended the Minnesota Hospital College for one year, afterward teaching again for a similar period. He then went to the Keokuk College of Physicians and Surgeons two years, graduating with honors in 1888. He at once started the practice of his profession in Wilson. His skill, his personality and his social qualities rapidly obtained recognition, and he now has a very large practice, owning a well equipped office and a beautiful home, being a fine type of a well-to-do country physician. He also makes a hobby of an artificial lake near Wilson, which he keeps supplied with spring water and stocked with game fish. The villages of Wilson and Hersey are supplied with ice taken from this lake. Dr. Pickett was married in November, 1888, to Mary Hatch, daughter of Edwin and Eliza (Foster) Hatch, early settlers of Waukesha county and later of Dunn county, who later came to Wilson and passed away. This union has been blessed with three children: Edwin, Alta and Marion. Dr. Pickett belongs to the Hudson Lodge, Independent Order of Foresters; Hersey Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Wilson Lodge, Modern Woodmen of America. He is also a member of the county, state and American medical societies. A Democrat in politics he has served as chairman of the township of Springfield. His large practice necessitates the keeping of two teams and an auto, and he is regarded as one of the leading physicians of the county. Socially, Dr. and Mrs. Pickett occupy an enviable position in the community, and they are always leaders in every effort for the betterment of the neighborhood. They are worshipers at the Methodist church at Wilson.

## HERSEY VILLAGE.

Hersey has a population of 300; a Methodist church and graded school; a grocery store; one hotel; one meat market; flour and feed store; Coöperative Creamery Company; the St. Croix County Coöperative Company, general store (branch of Baldwin); supply company, wholesale and retail, teas, coffee and spices; two general stores, and a livery barn.

**J. T. Gwaltney**, postmaster and general storekeeper of Hersey, was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, in the month of December, 1867, son of John T., a Virginian, who came to Wisconsin in 1865 and followed farming, coming to St. Croix county four years later. He is now living on his farm near Baldwin. J. T. worked at home and attended the common schools, remaining with his parents until 1896. At the age of twenty-one years he engaged in the general store business, and a few years later was made general manager for the St. Croix Coöperative Store Company, being placed in charge of their branch at Hersey. Mr. Gwaltney was married in 1888 to Nora Hathaway, daughter of Henry Hathaway, of South Bend, Ind.

**Charles Frantz** was brought up on the farm and attended the common schools of his home county, after which he farmed for ten years, then came to St. Croix county with his brother, Adam, and for some time ran a sawmill. He subsequently engaged in selling farm implements for eight years, until 1900, when he purchased the hardware store at Hersey, which he has since conducted. Mr. Frantz was married in 1891 to Anna Riley, daughter of Hugh Riley, an old settler of Springfield township. By this union there are seven children. They are: Lewis, Hugh, Mary, Emelia, Boyd, John and Julia. Aside from his business interests in the village, Mr. Frantz owns 120 acres of land in Springfield township. He is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America.

**A. L. Palmer** is a naitve of Easton, Wis., born August 28, 1858, son of S. C. and Emily Palmer. The father was born in London and remained there until fourteen years old, when he came to Ohio, and after attaining a suitable age, farmed and ran a meat wagon to the city of Cleveland, in that state. He moved to Illinois during the war and shortly afterward came to Dunn county, Wisconsin, and located. This was before the days of the railroad. After farming in that place three years he removed to Rumseys Landing, Dunn county, and clerked five years, subsequently going to his farm in Weston, Dunn county, where he now lives at the age of over seventy years. His wife also still survives. A. L. received a good common school education, afterward working as a cook fifteen years and then as a carpenter for some

time. In 1895 he became interested in bees and started in the apiary business. Today he owns 200 swarms, all of which are heavy producers. He is also manager for the St. Croix Valley Honey Producers' Association, which does business in ten states and in 1907 had a membership list of over 300 apiarists. Mr. Palmer travels considerably and is acquainted with all the leading bee keepers in the United States. He declares that after long observation he has come to the belief that the honey of the St. Croix region is superior in quality to any honey in the country, and states, furthermore, that it is the great favorite in all the large cities of the United States. He estimates the annual output of this valley at about four car loads. Mr. Palmer is the owner of four acres of land in Hersey and has a pleasant residence. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, having been an officer in the latter lodge for several terms. He was married in 1897 to Della Minter and has four children: Wesley, Frances May, Harold and Lawrence.

Mr. Palmer is a progressive man and a deep student of his chosen business. His name is widely known and he is quite generally regarded by bee culturists as an authority upon all matters relating to the production of honey.

## CHAPTER XLVI.

**Stanton Township—Star Prairie Township—Star Prairie Village —St. Joseph Township—Houlton Village—Troy Township—Warren Township—Roberts Village—Crops and Stock—Location and Area—History and Biography.**

Stanton is one of the northern tiers of St. Croix county townships. Originally a part of Star Prairie, it now embraces township 31, range 17, and has 21,896 acres, with an average valuation of $30.70. The land is rich and the farmers are prosperous. It has a number of small lakes, is crossed by the Omaha road, and has three villages—New Saratoga Springs, Ormes and Stanton village. Star Prairie village also overlaps its limits and extends into this township. The organization of Stanton as a township was perfected December 30, 1870, with Trueworthy Jewell as chairman. The farmers in the township own 500 horses, valued at $30,000; 1,600 neat cattle, valued at $22,400; 940 sheep and lambs, valued at $2,820, and 415 swine, valued at $2,075. The total value of real estate is $672,300; of personal property, $77,100; making a grand total of $749,400. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in Stanton township in 1908: Wheat, 70; corn, 1,764; oats, 5,903; barley, 1,453; rye, 53; flaxseed, 237; potatoes, 63; sugar beets, 1; hay, 3,792; growing timber, 364.

**Percy F. Adams** is a native of Ontario, Canada, born September 30, 1876, son of Joseph and Hannah (Johnston) Adams, both natives of Canada. They came to Stanton, St. Croix county, Wis., in 1882, and took up farming, which they followed until Joseph's death, April 16, 1906. Percy F. received a good common school education and attended the New Richmond High School. After leaving his studies he took up farming with his father. Later he bought the old homestead. One of his big barns was destroyed by lightning, September 12, 1905, entailing considerable loss. Mr. Adams does a general farming, paying particular attention to dairying. December 29, 1897, Mr. Adams was married to Angie, daughter of Roland and Mira Hemenway, prominent farmers of Star Prairie, Wis. Three children have blessed this union: Harold, Ward and Laura. All are at home and at school. For seven years Mr. Adams was clerk of school district No. 4, of Stanton, and his services have always been effi-

cient and faithfully performed. He is an independent voter and belongs to the Modern Woodmen, Fremont Lodge, No. 2,993, of New Richmond, Wis. The family worships at the First Baptist church, New Richmond. Mr. Adams is prosperous and progressive and well liked by all who know him. He works hard, and it is his ambition to have one of the best kept farms in the township. He is still a young man, and has yet many years of prosperity and honors ahead of him. Mrs. Adams is also a woman of ability, and the three bright children are being given the advantages of an excellent school education as well as ideal home training.

**John M. Arnquist** is one of a large family of brothers and sisters who have made their names honored and respected throughout the community. He was born in Sweden, July 13, 1851, son of Nels M. and Anna (Asp) Arnquist, who settled in Star Prairie, St. Croix county, Wis., in 1868. John M. received a common school education in Sweden, and after settling in Star Prairie with his parents he attended school at Huntingdon; then he bought, improved and sold land. In 1878 he bought 120 acres for himself, which he improved, erecting a large house and roomy barns. Upon this farm he carried on diversified farming, raising grain and live stock. Here he continued until 1901, when he sold out and bought 240 acres in Stanton township, in the same county. He at once set to work developing this land, and he now has 190 acres under the plow. The buildings which he erected include a large barn built in 1902 and valued at $2,000. A beautiful new house erected at a cost of $4,000 is just completed. It is one of the finest houses in the township, with all modern conveniences, including hot-air heat, hot and cold water, bath tubs and a large air pressure tank. Near the house is also a 100-foot cement well and windmill of great power. Mr. Arnquist's progressive spirit is shown by the fact that he has christened his place the Fair View Stock Farm. The horses raised on this farm are known far beyond the borders of the state.

Mr. Arnquist was married in 1878 to Edith P. Paulson, of Chicago, daughter of John and Kristine (Clements) Paulson, of Sweden. Her father died in Louisiana. He was formerly postmaster and merchant at Vasa, Goodhue county, Minn., where the mother died. Mr. and Mrs. Arnquist are the proud parents of thirteen children: W. Bennett, a clothing clerk in Seattle, Wash. He was married to Nora Whitman, of Rudolph, Wis. M. Ethelyn and James F., who are at home; N. Leonard, assistant postmaster at New Richmond, Wis.; John P., a graduate of the New Richmond High School, is also at home; Charles S., also a graduate of the same school and working for the Ward S. Williams Company, New Richmond; Otto C., Anna K., Harry H., A. Samuel, A.

Lyman, R. Lawton and Sigfried D. are at home and attending school. Mr. Arnquist votes the Republican ticket. His public offices include treasurer of Star Prairie township, assessor, clerk and director of school board. He is one of the influential and prosperous men of the community, and is one of those people who believe in up-to-date methods and ideas. His beautiful house and well-kept farm speak for themselves as to his progressiveness and good taste. Mention of the nine brothers and sisters of Mr. Arnquist will be found in the sketch of his brother, Andrew, which appears in this volume. Mr. Arnquist was one of the organizers and founders of the Swedish Lutheran church at Huntingdon, in Star Prairie township, in 1874, and continued active in its affairs until he moved to his farm in Stanton. Then, in 1906, he was largely instrumental in securing for the congregation in the city of New Richmond the handsome church edifice which it now owns and occupies, Mr. Arnquist's new farm home being but two miles from the city limits. In 1901 Mr. Arnquist had much to do with the preliminary work of securing for this locality its first rural free delivery mail routes. He circulated the petition for one of the first three routes out from New Richmond, the original route, No. 3, and served that route as mail carrier very efficiently from February 1, 1902, until April 1, 1906, when he found it necessary to resign in order to give his full time and attention to the duties of the farm.

**W. J. Bernd** is pre-eminently one of the successful farmers of this section of the country. He was born in 1864, son of George M. and Catherine (Fuiten) Bernd, who still live at Hartford, Wis., retired farmers. W. J. Bernd worked on the farm and attended the common schools, afterward continuing his farm work and paying particular attention to breeding fine stock. Since 1900 he has been a resident of St. Croix county. His farm in Stanton township, consisting of 200 acres, is one of the finest improved pieces of land in this part of the county, and it would be hard to find in the entire valley an equal of his splendid barn. Its dimensions are 50 by 120 feet, with water all the way through, and is kept so neat and clean that it is regarded as a model for other stock breeders near and far. Upon the farm are raised general crops of the finest quality, but the business that gives the place its name of Maple Grove Stock Farm and has made Mr. Bernd known throughout the state is that of breeding the choicest full-blooded stock. His thoroughbred short-horn cattle, blooded Poland-China hogs, white Plymouth Rock fowls, bronze turkeys, Toulouse geese and Pekin ducks have won at state and county fairs enough first and second prize ribbons to make a good sized bed quilt, and he has one short-horn cow, "Lady Lovell," that took second prize at the Milwaukee, Wis., state

fair; third at the Minnesota state fair, third at Kansas City at the American Royal fair, and first at North, Wis. He also has an imported Percheron stallion that is a very fine animal, indeed. His success has attracted wide attention, and as he is a great advertiser, he has a wide correspondence and often writes as high as 500 letters yearly. Mr. Bernd was married in 1890 to Emma M., daughter of Charles and Matilda (Kruger) Sette. This union has been blessed with eight children: Harvey, Verna, Wesley, Fila, Victor, Wilmer, Myrtle and Omer, all of whom are at home. He is an independent voter, but although he takes an active interest in all public questions, he has been too busy with his farm to seek public offices. It is such men as he who have given to the valley its reputation for rich farms and fine stock.

**Carl Carow** is a native of Germany, born December 29, 1855, son of Ludwig and Wilhelime Carow. His parents came to the United States in 1876 and settled in Juneau, Dodge county, Wis., where the father carried on farming operations. Carl attended the common schools of Germany and upon coming to America worked on the farm with his father. He continued this business until 1902, when he came to St. Croix county and settled on his present fine farm, about seven miles north of New Richmond, and situated in Stanton township. The place consists of 200 highly improved acres. The farm was in first-class condition when he bought it, and even at that time was among the finest farms in the township. Mr. Carow, however, has made many improvements, and has remodeled and added to the buildings until today he has a farm that any man might well be proud to own. He raises a general crop, paying quite a little attention to the breeding of a fine quality of Poland-China hogs. Mr. Carow was married in 1883 to Augusta Bethke, by whom he has seven children: Herman, Edward, Paul, Ludwig, Emma, Martha and Hilda, all of whom are a credit to the training of their parents. A staunch Democrat in politics, Mr. Carow has nevertheless never sought public office. He is devoted to his family and to his farm, and his time is well filled in tilling his fertile acres. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and attends the Lutheran church. All that he has he has earned by hard work, and he well deserves all the success that has come to him.

**Cornelius Carr** was born in Canada in 1856, son of Patrick and Mary (Foley) Carr, of Ireland. The parents came to Canada in the early days, where the father farmed until 1865, when he came to this state and settled in Stanton township, where his son, Cornelius Carr, still resides. The father was killed by the blowing over of a load of hay. The ground was frozen and as he fell he broke his neck. The mother is still living at the ripe old age of seventy-nine years.

Cornelius Carr received a common school education and then started work on the farm with his father. He thoroughly mastered all the details of the work, and upon his father's sad death he took up the work and carried it on with great success. He owns 200 acres of rich and well developed land. Of this 120 acres are in Stanton township, forty in Cylon and forty in Polk county. Upon these acres he does a general farming. Mr. Carr was married in 1907 to Mary Ellen Toomey, of Chicago, formerly of Ohio. He is a Democrat, but has never sought public office, preferring rather to devote his time to the work on the farm. He is an attendant of the Catholic church at Stanton. With his father he made all the improvements on the farm and erected the buildings. He is honest and upright and highly regarded by all who know him as a hard working, industrious citizen.

**James A. Guy**, now deceased, was an old and respected farmer of Stanton township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin. He was born in Gallipolis, Ohio, June 28, 1830, son of Robert and Eliza (Vanzant) Guy, both descended from old Virginian families. They lived successively in Virginia, Ohio and Indiana. The father died September 3, 1834, in Indiana, and the mother passed away at Stanton, January 7, 1879. James A. received an excellent education in the common schools of Indiana, supplemented by considerable home study on his own account. He clerked and taught school in Laporte, Ind., and then located in Afton, Minn., where he started his career as a farmer, buying land, erecting a house and barns and making many improvements, carrying on a general farming. After several years of this he sold out and located in Stanton township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, in 1866, buying 169 acres of land, which he broke and improved. He erected a beautiful dwelling house and some fine barns. The windmill which he constructed was the first one ever put in operation in the township. He at once started farming on a large scale, raising wheat and oats in addition to general small crops and stock, which he still continues. Mr. Guy was married, November 17, 1853, to Camilla Harvey, of Indiana, now deceased, by whom he had four children: Fannie E., the oldest, is deceased; William H. is a contractor and real estate man in Denver, Col.; John H. is deceased, and J. Lincoln, the youngest, is a farmer at Big Rock, Ill. Mr. Guy was married the second time to Mary V., daughter of Jonah and Ann (Eddy) Palmer, farmers of Ohio and Minnesota. The ceremony was performed at New Richmond, Wis., November 3, 1867. Mrs. Guy's father died July 18, 1865, in Illinois, and her mother passed away at Afton, Minn., June 28, 1861. By this marriage Mr. Guy has four children: Ada May died March 3, 1897; she was the wife of Edward Plank, a penmanship teacher, of Almond, Wis.; Amy J. was a stenographer

before her marriage to Ethan Minier; Mr. Minier was formerly a lawyer at Amery, Wis.; he now owns a large sheep ranch in South Dakota. Eva L. learned the profession of photographer. With her husband, James Goodlad, she now lives at the old Guy homestead and helps to make her mother comfortable. Lillian, the youngest, also lives at home. Mr. Guy was a Republican and attended the Methodist church. As supervisor of the town he helped to lay out nearly all the roads in Stanton township. He was clerk of the school board for district No. 4 several terms and also acted as census taker. He died on his farm July 4, 1888, greatly beloved by all who knew him. Mr. Guy was a home-loving man and was very fond of his family. His death was a severe blow not only to his bereaved wife and children, but also to his large circle of friends. Mrs. Guy is a woman of much ability and has always been a popular member of the community, where she is known as a person who is always ready to assist in every good cause.

**Ebbe Hanson** is a native of Denmark, born September 9, 1859, a son of Hans and Marie Hanson, who lived and died in the old country. He attended the common schools and worked with his father until 1882, when he came to the United States. After looking about for a time he located in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, until 1902, when he came to St. Croix county and took up farming. He purchased an improved farm of 160 acres in Stanton township. Since that date he has made many more improvements. He is considered one of the best farmers in the township, and his farm shows much careful work. He has a good house and large barns, all in the finest condition. He carries on general farming, raising diversified crops and breeding some good cattle, hogs, fowls and other live stock. Mr. Hanson has made a great success of farming, and is regarded as one of the most successful men in the valley. In 1884 he was married to Mary Christensen, who has made him a most able helpmeet. Four children have blessed this union: William, Amelia, Clarence and Aggie. Mr. Hanson is a Republican in politics, but has never sought public position, although many times urged to do so by his friends. He chooses rather to devote his time to his farm and his family, and let others take care of the offices. He has made all that he owns by hard labor, and is still engaged in active work, toiling from early morning to late at night in order to add to the success that he has already achieved.

**George H. Hilling** is a native of New York state, born February 1, 1854, son of George W. and Catherine A. (Donovan) Hilling, of whom a sketch will be found in this volume. George H. received a good common school education and worked with his father on the farm, afterward starting work for himself. He

has lived on his present farm about fourteen years. The place is regarded as one of the finest in the township. It consists of 140 acres of the best developed land, with large barns and a beautiful house. In scenic beauty it is not lacking, as the beautiful Oak Ridge lake joins it on the south. Mr. Hilling does general farming. He was married, November 15, 1878, to Kate, the daughter of Peter and Mary (Dailey) Kelley. The father spent his latter days with his daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Hilling have been blessed with five children: Mary E. is the wife of E. W. McGill, a merchant in St. Paul; Henry is engaged in the confectionery business in Grand Rapids, Minn.; Thomas E. is a farmer in Alden township, Polk county, Wis.; Kate is with her brother in the confectionery store at Grand Rapids; Margaret is the wife of Patrick Holey, a farmer in this township. Mr. Hilling is serving his second term as chairman of the town. Prior to this he served six terms as assessor and three years as treasurer. In politics he is a Democrat. He is a popular member of the Modern Woodmen of the World, also the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin. The sons are also members of the Woodmen.

**George W. Hilling** is a native of County Armaugh, Ireland, born July 12, 1830. His father was James Hilling, a farmer and courier who lived and died in Ireland. The mother was one of the well-known Hamilton family, prominent in that section of Ireland. George W. came to America in 1843 and worked many years on the railroad, after which he took up farming at Portchester, N. Y. In 1858 he came to St. Croix Falls, St. Croix county, Wis., and opened up a large farm for Thomas McSpenden, an alderman and later mayor of New York City. On this farm Mr. Hilling lived two years. Then he located at Stanton, in the same county, and bought 160 acres, upon which he broke the land and made all improvements. He also built the house and outbuildings. After eighteen years of diversified farming on this place Mr. Hilling gave the property to his son, George H., and bought for himself 340 acres, which he broke and improved, erecting houses and barns. He now does a general farming. Mr. Hilling was married, in October, 1853, to Catherine A. Donovan, a daughter of Thomas and Catherine A. (Ryan) Donovan, both natives of Ireland, now deceased. The ceremony was performed at Portchester, N. Y. Five children were born. A sketch of George H., the oldest, will be found in this history. Anna M. married Michael McAlpin, of Grand Rapids, Minn. Margaret, wife of Michael Madden, is now deceased, as are also Mary E. and Kate A. Mr. Hilling is a Democrat. He is now treasurer of the school board and has served on the town and school boards for many years. He has also been town clerk and treasurer. He is one of the well-known farmers of Stanton township, and owes

his position and success entirely to his own hard work. The family worships at the Catholic church.

**Edmond J. Hogan** was born in Stanton township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, September 7, 1865, a son of Philip and Catherine (Cavanaugh) Hogan. The father came from Ireland to Milwaukee, Wis., in 1851, then went to California, afterward returning to Milwaukee in 1860 and settling in Stanton township, Pierce county, Wisconsin, in September of 1861. He was highly regarded by his fellow townsmen, who elected him chairman and treasurer of the town. He was widely known as a man of public spirit. The mother was a native of New York state. At the time of the father's death in 1883 he was the owner of 400 acres of rich land. Edmond J. received a good education in the public schools, working on the farm in the summer time. After he left school he took up farming as his life work, doing considerable work in the pine woods during the winter months. He is unmarried and resides on the old homestead with his mother. Together with his brother, John, he owns in all 520 acres of land in Stanton township and carries on a general mixed farming, breeding fine stock and Poland-China hogs. Aside from breeding high-grade cattle, he also buys and ships live stock of every description. The two brothers together made most of the improvements on the land. The old log cabin in which their father first settled is still standing on the property. Mr. Hogan is not tied down to any party traditions, but votes at each election as his conscience dictates. Three times he has been elected chairman of the town of Stanton and for two terms he has been town clerk. In a fraternal way he is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters. Mr. Hogan is a successful farmer, and his mother, himself and his brother are all well thought of by their fellow townsmen.

**H. P. Jacobsen** was born in Denmark in 1840, a son of Christen and Pauline Jacobsen, who lived and died in the old country. He came to the United States, May 24, 1873, locating first at Racine, Wis., where he labored until 1878, when he came to Stanton township, St. Croix county, bought land and at once started working it. Since then he has continued the farming business and today owns 160 acres of well-improved land, which he developed himself. While breaking his land he studied English, and today he can read and write the language of his adopted land as well as that of his native country. Before coming to this country he received a good education in the public schools of Denmark, and this, together with the reading and studying that he has done since then, has made him a well-educated man. Mr. Jacobsen married Carrie Bertelsen, by whom he has two children: Evangeline C. and Henry C., both of whom are at home. He has never

mingled deeply in politics, although he is interested in all public affairs. He is devoted to his family and his farm, and is one of the successful and well thought of men in the township.

**Joseph R. Kirsch** is a native of Germany, born June 25, 1852, a son of Joseph and Frances (Johns) Kirsch. He received a good education in the public and high schools of Germany and then came to this country to seek his fortune. Upon arriving in Hudson, Wis., in 1872, he engaged in the flour milling business for six years. Subsequently he spent seven years at the Jewett mills in Erin Prairie, Wis. After that he bought grain for the Northern Grain Company at Stanton, St. Croix county, Wis., for nine years. In this township he later started farming. He now owns 160 acres of rich land, 100 of which is planted. Upon this farm he does a general farming, raising the usual crops and breeding a fine grade of short-horn cattle and Poland-China hogs, together with other live stock and some fowls. The farm is highly cultivated and well looked after, and the house is a model of what all farm houses should be. The Kirsch family believes in the old German idea of liberal hospitality, and their latch string is always out to their friends. Anyone who has been greeted with Mr. Kirsch's hearty handshake and sat down to one of Mrs. Kirsch's meals is not likely soon to forget their hospitality. Mr. Kirsch was married, in 1876, to Margaret Loretta Ryan, who has proven a most able helpmeet throughout life. By this union there are nine children: W. E., Robert J., John G., Frank R., who died at the age of one year and seven months; Raymond, Mollie, Francis, Marguerite and Claire. All the children have been given a fine education, and several of the daughters teach school. The whole family is highly regarded throughout the county. Mr. Kirsch is a Democrat and has served on the side board and school board for twenty years. He is one of the prominent members of the American Society of Equity. He owes all that he possesses to his own hard work, and the improvements on his rich farm are all the work of his own hands. He is a good citizen and one of the leading men of his township.

**Thomas B. Lee** has spent his entire life in Stanton, St. Croix county, Wis. He is the son of James and Catherine (Brighton) Lee, natives of Tipperary and Kings counties, Ireland. His father located in Connecticut in 1844 and worked in the woods where Gen. Israel Putnam, a Revolutionary hero, was wont to kill wolves. In 1852 he moved to Milwaukee, Wis., and bought forty acres, upon which he worked ten years until the outbreak of the Civil war. Responding to Lincoln's call for volunteers, he joined the 100th New York and served under Gen. U. S. Grant. He was present at the surrender of Gen. Robert E. Lee. At the close of the war in 1866 he came to Stanton, settled on 300 acres, broke

the land and erected buildings. His farming consisted largely of raising wheat and other small grains. He served as chairman of the school board and was clerk of that body when he died, December 13, 1894. Thomas passed through the common schools, graduated from the New Richmond, Wis., high school, and then took a course at the Prairie du Chien, Wis., Business College. Using the excellent education thus obtained, he taught school with great success in Stanton for five years. Work on his father's farm then demanded his attention, and he gradually assumed entire charge and later the ownership. The farm produces general crops, but is largely devoted to dairying. Mr. Lee has been town chairman six years and town clerk three years. He votes the Democratic ticket, attends the Catholic church and belongs to the Modern Woodmen, Deer Park Camp, No. 5,951.

**P. J. Maguire,** a well-known farmer of Stanton, St. Croix county, Wis., was born in Canada in June, 1854. His parents, Henry and Anna (Foly) Maguire, were born in County Armagh, Ireland, and came to Canada in the early days, where the father followed his profession of carpenter. They came to Hudson, Wis., in 1864. After a stay of six months they moved to Stanton township in 1865 and took up eighty acres of homestead land. To this in 1866 they added 240 more, improving this land and erecting buildings. Later they moved to Stanton Station, in the same township, and followed farming until the father's death, September 22, 1877. P. J. Maguire received a good education in the public schools and then worked on the farm with his father. Since his father's death he has added forty adjoining acres to the old homestead. Until 1888 he raised wheat with considerable success and then he went into oat raising. He now carries on general farming. Success has followed all his efforts and his farm shows prosperity and hard work. Mr. Maguire has never married, but has his sister, May, to keep house for him. The neatness and good taste shown about the house speaks well for her excellence in this capacity. Mr. Maguire is a Democrat and attends the Catholic church.

**Patrick Malony, Jr.,** was born in County Mayo, Ireland, son of Patrick, Sr., and Ann (Pardon) Malony. Patrick, Sr., spent ten years in this country in the early days. He located in Canada in 1847 and after three years there he went to Virginia and worked on the Baltimore railroad seven years. Then he returned to his native land, and died in 1868. The same year that his father died Patrick, Jr., came to St. Croix county and worked at lumbering throughout the valley the next ten years. Deciding to become a farmer in 1882, he purchased 160 acres in Stanton township and devoted his life to their improvement. He found the place almost a wilderness, but in a few years under his patient

and hard labor the farm reached a stage of high development, and a pleasant house and large barns testified to his prosperity. The acres now bloom with wheat, oats and barley, and furnish pasturage for short-horn cattle and Poland-China and Berkshire hogs. In 1875 Mr. Malony married Ellen, daughter of Martin and Kate (Lally) Dickson, prominent residents of Broadhead, Wis. This union has been blessed with ten children: Martin, married to Mary Forman, is now the New Richmond chief of police; Kate married Hank Conway, a contractor at Superior, this state; Patrick works on his father's farm; Mary married Richard Cashman, a Warren farmer, and Ann, Thomas, Ellen and John are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Malony have striven to give their children a good education, and the entire family is well thought of throughout the community.

**William McNamara** is a native of Stanton township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, born July 21, 1876, son of James and Mary (Lee) McNamara, old settlers of the county, of whom a sketch appears in another part of this history. William received a primary education in the common schools, where he distinguished himself as a bright scholar. He finished his education in the Normal School at River Falls, Wis., and then engaged in the grain business for the Wisconsin Elevator Company at Stanton township, Wisconsin, for two years. Subsequently he bought grain for three years for the New Richmond Roller Mills Company. In 1900 he opened a general store, and two years later he built his present store in Stanton village, where he carries on a big business. He carries $5,000 worth of the finest stock, and his honest and upright dealings have won a large trade. In company with Thomas Lee he built a warehouse in 1903 and purchased 11,000 bushels of wheat. Later the two gentlemen built an elevator, which they have since continued to operate. The store and elevator business are both prospering and growing from year to year. In 1903 Mr. McNamara was married to Anna M. Ring, daughter of Patrick Ring, a farmer of Erin Prairie, now deceased. The mother now lives with her daughter. Mr. McNamara is a Democrat in politics and attends the Catholic church. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Catholic Order of Foresters. He is one of the widely known men of the township and is highly regarded for his affable spirit and his business ability.

**Lawrence Parnell** was born in Somerset township, St. Croix county, in 1855. His parents, Thomas and Angeline (Parent) Parnell, came to this section from Canada in 1851. They were farmers and lived, until the time of their death, in Somerset township. They had a family of seven children, six of whom are now

alive. Lawrence received a good education in the public schools, after which he took up farming, which he has followed practically all his life. His farm, which consists of 210 acres in the township and 46 acres in the village of Somerset, is now leased to his son, Lewis, who carries it on along the same general lines that his father conducted it, raising general crops and breeding fine stock. The farm is well improved and is justly the pride of both father and son. In the month of July, 1880, Mr. Parnell was married to Eliez Belisle, daughter of one of the old families of the county. By this union there are twelve children, all but the oldest being still living. Edward is deceased. The others are Angella, Lewis, Odna, Rosie, Narcis, Albert, Laura, Edwedge, Andy, Raymond, Clarence and Edmond. Mr. Parnell has now retired and removed to the village. He does a little work on his garden in the village, but leaves most of the labor to his son. He has been a hard working man all his life and has won success by his own efforts. He is a Democrat in politics and has served as school clerk, assessor and chairman of Somerset township. He is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters. Mr. Parnell is a good citizen and a hard working, industrious man, owing all that he has to his own efforts.

**Thomas Ryan** is a native of Greenfield, near Milwaukee, Wis., born in the month of August, 1856, son of Thomas and Eliza (Kelley) Ryan. The parents came to this section in June, 1867, purchased land and settled in section 23, Stanton township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin. The father was a farmer all his life, passing away in 1905. The mother died in 1892. They had eight children: Peter is a farmer in Stanton township; Jeremiah is a traveling salesman, with a residence in Saginaw, Mich.; Thomas is the third of the family; Mary married Patrick Callahan, a retired farmer of New Richmond, Wis.; Joseph is a farmer of Stanton township; Johanna and Elizabeth are dead, and D. F., married to Ellen V. O'Brien, is in the circulating department of the public library at Milwaukee. Thomas worked with his father on the farm in his younger days and received a good common school education. He now owns a large farm, 440 acres, in Stanton township, all under the plow. Mr. Ryan himself broke most of the land and made nearly all the improvements. The farm is one of the best in the township and is well kept in every particular. Mr. Ryan was married in 1879 to Mary Gleason, daughter of John and Ann (O'Neil) Gleason. By this union there are ten children: Jeremiah, Ann, Lizzie, Thomas, John, Andy, Peter, Mamie, Loretta and Arthur. Mr. Ryan is a Democrat and has served as assessor of the town. His opinions are held in high regard by his friends and he is one of the representative farmers of the county.

**Peter Ryan** was born in Westchester county, New York, November 12, 1852, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Kelley) Ryan. The father was born in Tipperary county and the mother in Killdare county, Ireland. Upon coming to America they located in Westchester county, New York, and worked on a farm for seven years. Then they came westward and settled in Milwaukee county, Wisconsin, and farmed it there for eleven years. In 1867 they came to Stanton, St. Croix county, Wis., and purchased 160 acres. The father carried on a general farming until 1903, when he sold the farm and bought a house in New Richmond, Wis. The mother died on the old homestead in Stanton that year. The father lived in New Richmond until his death, in 1905. Peter Ryan received a common school education in the public schools and farmed with his father until twenty-seven years of age. In 1878 Mr. Ryan bought 160 acres of timber land in Stanton township, Wisconsin. He stumped, grubbed and broke all this land and built a home. In 1899 the great cyclone destroyed nearly all the buildings. Since then Mr. Ryan has rebuilt and improved the buildings and continued to improve the farm. At first the chief crop was wheat, but later Mr. Ryan started a general diversified farming. Mr. Ryan was married, November 26, 1880, to Mary A., daughter of William and Margaret (O'Neil) Williams, well-known farmers of New Richmond township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin. By this union there are four children, all of whom are graduates of the New Richmond High School. Thomas and William are at home. Joseph is a clerk in a store in New Richmond. Margaret is also at home. Mr. Ryan has served as side supervisor, assessor and town treasurer of the town of Stanton for several terms with great credit. He is a democrat in politics, attends the Catholic church and belongs to the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Ryan both come of large families. Mrs. Ryan had ten brothers and sisters: Patrick, William, Richard, Jeremiah, John, Thomas, Michael, Bridget, Johannah and Margaret. Mr. Ryan had eight brothers and sisters: Jeremiah married Dorcas Brown; Thomas married Mary A. Gleeson; Joseph married Johannah Ryan; John is dead; Daniel married Nellie O'Brien; May married Patrick Callahan; Johannah married Henry Kennedy, and Elizabeth married William Hennessey.

**William Schwandt** was born in Ripon, Fond du Lac county, Wis., in 1879. His parents, William and Bertha (Klitzke) Schwandt, came from Germany and settled in Fond du Lac county, where the father farmed until his death in 1903. William Schwandt, the subject of this sketch, came to St. Croix county a few years ago and purchased 160 acres of fine land in Stanton township, paying one-half on the price. By hard work

he has been enabled in the few years that have passed since then to pay off the entire debt and today he owns the rich farm, clear of all debt, 100 acres being under the plow and in a state of high improvement and cultivation. Upon the place are raised graded stock, hogs and other live stock, as well as some fowls, while the rich acres yield an abundant harvest of general crops. Mr. Schwandt is not married, and his sister Bertha and his mother keep house for him. He is secretary of the American Society of Equity and an earnest worker in its cause. He is a successful, hard working man, and although he is a newcomer, he is already highly regarded. His mother and sisters are also much esteemed by their neighbors. Mr. Schwandt received a good education and has increased his learning by wide reading, being well informed on all current and agricultural topics.

**Daniel W. Silver,** skilled veterinary surgeon of Stanton township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, was born in Garland, Me., November 29, 1844, a son of Daniel and Achsh Cressey Silver. The father was born in Bradford, N. H., and the mother first saw the light of day in Hopkinton, N. H. Daniel Silver followed lumbering and farming at Garland until the time of his death. He had three children: Frank Silver, a farmer in Garland, Me.; Susan, who died in 1861; the third child, the subject of this sketch, received a common school education and finished at Dexter Academy, Dexter, Me., after which he taught school for a time in his native state. Later he moved westward and became a fisherman on Lake Michigan. In 1867 he came to Star Prairie township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, and engaged in the meat business until 1901, when he removed to a farm in Stanton township. Upon this farm he carries on a general farming business and breeds Holstein cattle, Jersey grade and Guernsey cattle and Poland-China hogs. When a youth he studied the profession of veterinary surgeon and he now conducts this business. Mr. Silver was married, October 13, 1867, while at Star Prairie to Ella F. Muzzy, daughter of Abner and Aseneth M. (Cressey) Muzzy. The father was a dyer in the woolen mills at Minneapolis, Minn. Later he conducted a cloth store at Hudson, Wis., and still later located in Star Prairie, Wis., and purchased a farm, which is widely known for its mineral spring and trout pond. He lived on the farm until his death, July 6, 1904. The mother still survives and makes her home with a son in Star Prairie village, Wisconsin. The father was born in Ware, N. H., August 19, 1824, and the mother was born in Hopkinton, N. H., December 9, 1827. They had three children. Georgia A. died at Glenwood, Minn., January 24, 1889. Harvey, a tanner by trade, is a farmer at Star Prairie, Wis. Ella F., who married W. D. Silver, was a school teacher before she was married. Mr. and

Mrs. Silver have five children. Estelle F. was a student at the Normal School at River Falls, Wis. She taught school and was also an instructor of music. She had great talent as a painter and a great future had been planned for her. She died July 16, 1894. Eva B. was a student at the River Falls Normal school also and taught school. She married B. F. Hurd, cashier of the bank at Woodville, Wis. Frank H. lives in Star Prairie village. The twins, Wallace and Warren, are at home, and Wallace carries on the farm. Mr. Silver is a Republican, and the family attends the Congregational church. While at Star Prairie, Mr. Silver served as constable, town treasurer, road master and clerk of the school board. Mr. Silver is a man of energy and perseverance and well deserves the success that he has achieved. The farm upon which Mr. and Mrs. Silver are living is an inheritance from Mrs. Silver's aunt, and is in a high stage of cultivation.

**John J. Walsh** is one of the prosperous farmers of the St. Croix valley, and his broad acres show the results of his hard work and industrious efforts. He was born in Stanton township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, October 25, 1870, son of Edmond and Kate (Huges) Walsh, natives of Ireland, a sketch of whom appears in this volume. John J. received a good common school education. For eight years after graduating from this course he was a railroad fireman and engineer. Later he abandoned railroading and settled down on a farm in Stanton. While working as an engineer Mr. Walsh was popular with his associates, and he still retains many friends whom he made in those days. He was regarded as a most efficient man, and the road lost an able employe when he decided to give up the work. As a farmer he is no less able. His progressiveness is shown by the fact that he has sunk a 76-foot open well upon his property. November 28, 1905, he was married to Florence Frawley, of St. Joseph township, Wisconsin, a daughter of Thomas and Ellen (Connely) Frawley, well-known farmers of St. Joseph township, for forty years or more. There are two children: George Robert, born February 22, 1907, and Geraldine C., born March 11, 1908. Mr. Walsh is at present town clerk of Stanton, a capacity in which he has already served six years. He is an independent voter and attends the Catholic church. He is also a popular member of the Catholic Order of Foresters, No. 508, New Richmond, and also of the Modern Woodmen, No. 5951, of Deer Park, Wis.

**August Warner** has lived upon his farm in Stanton township, Wisconsin, for over a quarter of a century, during which time he has been known as a hard worker and good farmer. He was born in Germany, September 26, 1843, son of Charles and Annie (Krause) Warner, who lived and died on their farm in the Fatherland. August came to America in 1868, at the age of

twenty-five years. He came westward and settled in Stillwater, Washington county, Minn., and worked in the lumber mills there eight years. This was in the time of the lumber boom in Stillwater, and the mills were busy turning out millions of feet of lumber from the logs that were floated down the river to that city. During his labors there Mr. Warner worked hard and saved his money until 1876, when he was able to come to Stanton, St. Croix county, Wis., and purchase 290 acres. The land was then wild, and Mr. Warner at once set to work breaking the land and putting the acres in shape for profitable farming. Upon breaking the ground he at once sowed wheat, and this was his principal crop until the year 1888, when he started planting oats, which proved more profitable than the wheat. Gradually he took up general farming, which he now continues. When he came to Stanton, Mr. Warner brought with him his bride, Minnie Matthews, whom he married in 1876. She was the daughter of William and Lena (Warner) Matthews, farmers of Cylon, St. Croix county, Wis. This union resulted in eight sturdy children. Annie married Julius Arendt, of Cylon, Wis.; Erma, a dressmaker, lives at home; Walter helps his father on the farm and is already proving an able farmer; William is also at home, and Ida and Elsie are students at the schools of Deer Park, Wis.; Edwin and Raymond are attending the Stanton school.

Mr. Warner votes the Republican ticket and attends the German Lutheran church.

## STAR PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP.

Star Prairie now includes township 31, range 18, and was organized January 28, 1856. It is one of the northern tier of townships in St. Croix county, being bounded by Stanton, Richmond and Somerset townships and Polk county. It has several beautiful bodies of water, well stocked with fish, and is drained by the waters of the Apple river. It has two villages—Star Prairie and Huntington. New Richmond village also extends into its border and railroads pass through the southeastern corner. The township now covers 21,242 acres, with an average value of $19.81. It originally included parts of what are now Richmond and Erin and all of Stanton. The first election was held at the home of B. C. B. Foster at New Richmond. Among the first settlers were the Jewells and the Ridders. There are in the township 385 horses, valued at $23,100; 1,950 neat cattle, valued at $27,300; 650 sheep and lambs, valued at $1,950, and 625 swine, valued at $3,125. The total value of the real estate is $422,300, and of personal property $180,900, making a total of $603,200. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in Star

Prairie township in 1908: Wheat, 62; corn, 1,211; oats, 3,095; barley, 516; rye, 224; flaxseed, 10; potatoes, 52; strawberries, 5¾; raspberries, 7; hay, 2,626.

**Andrew Arnquist** was born in Sweden, June 20, 1842, son of N. M. and Annie (Asp) Arnquist, who left their native country and settled in Star Prairie, St. Croix county, Wis., in 1869. He attended the common schools of Sweden and then worked at the lumber business, laboring in sawmills in the summer time and in the woods in the winter time. Upon coming to America in 1866 he worked on a farm near Red Wing, Minn., six months and then attended school for a similar period. In 1867 he came to Star Prairie and took up farming and lumbering on Apple river, which at that time was one of the centers of lumbering activity in this section. Two years later his parents came to America and settled in the same town. In 1875 Mr. Arnquist purchased 160 acres in Star Prairie township. House and barns soon adorned the property, and the numerous outbuildings were not long in building. For several years the principal crop was wheat. Later Mr. Arnquist took up general farming. Among the buildings on the farm that never fail to attract the attention of persons passing the place is a large and modern barn, built in 1908 at a cost of over $1,500. Mr. Arnquist was married in Star Prairie, May 4, 1876, to Christina Johnson, a daughter of John and Carrie Johnson, well known farmers of Sweden, who lived and died in the old country. This marriage was blessed with six children. Edna, the oldest, taught school for a time and is now the wife of William Giberson, of Cantlean, Idaho. Mabel, the second daughter, is now a school teacher. Inez teaches school at Seattle, Wash. Ida is a telephone operator at Cantlean, Idaho. Victor and Erving are at home on the farm. Edna, Mabel and Inez graduated from the New Richmond, Wis., High School. By a previous marriage Mrs. Arnquist had two children, Hilda and Carrie Paulson, the latter of whom is now deceased. Mrs. Arnquist passed away in the month of March, 1903, at the old homestead, where she had been brought as a bride and where she had spent all of her married life. Mr. Arnquist has always taken a deep interest in public affairs and has been honored by his fellow townsmen of Star Prairie with such positions as side supervisor, director on school board and assessor, the latter position having been held by him for a period of five years. He is a staunch Republican and attends the Lutheran church. There were nine of the Arnquist brothers and sisters, all of whom have had a part in the development of St. Croix county. The oldest is Mrs. Kate Johnson, who now lives in Polk county, Wisconsin, in the city of Little Falls. Andrew was the second child and the oldest boy of the family. Nels is a farmer of Star Prairie township. Christiana lives in the

same township. John M. lives in Stanton township. Mrs. Annie Holmquist is now dead. Mrs. Carrie Libby lives in New Richmond. The eighth child is Judge Arnquist, of Hudson, and the youngest is Mrs. May Anderson, of New Richmond.

**Nels Arnquist** was born in Sweden, September 18, 1844, son of Nels and Annie (Asp) Arnquist, who came to America and started farming in 1868. The mother died in 1896, and the father passed away in 1898. Nels Arnquist received his education in the schools of Sweden and came to the United States in 1866, locating at Red Wing, Minn. In 1867 he removed to Star Prairie and settled on a farm, working on the Apple river and in the woods. Later he purchased the farm and made general improvements, putting in many years of hard work to bring the land to a high stage of cultivation. He now owns 240 acres, 180 of which is under the plow. The house, the buildings and the farms all show prosperity and the best of care. Mr. Arnquist was married in 1870 to Catherine Johnson, whose parents lived in the old country and never came to America, although often urged to do so. Mr. Arnquist is a Republican in politics. He has been chairman of the town, an assessor, a member of the side board and also a school officer. He has always been known as a public spirited man, and he well deserves all the success that he has won. He is universally well thought of, and his family also occupies an excellent position in the community. Mrs. Arnquist died in 1906.

**Lewis Erikson** was born in Norway, November 25, 1847, a son of Erik and Kjersti Larson. The parents came to the United States in the early days, settling first in Green county, later coming to St. Croix county in the seventies, spending their remaining days here. In early life Lewis followed the seafaring life for nine years, mostly on the Pacific coast, also passing through the Straits of Magellan. He afterward crossed the Isthmus of Panama, then making the trip from Colon to New York. In 1873 he settled in Star Prairie, where he has since resided. He now owns 120 acres of fine farm land, upon which he has made all the improvements and where he carries on general farming, raising the usual crops and breeding graded stock, sheep, hogs, horses and other live stock. Adjoining this farm on the north is Cedar lake, upon the banks of which Mr. Erikson has a fine summer resort, Breezy Point, where he rents boats during the summer months. The place is very beautiful, and Mr. Erikson has been offered large sums for it, but he has always refused, knowing that the property will be worth still more in future years. Mr. Erikson was married in 1882 to Agnes Brevold. Three children have blessed this union: Cyrus H. is attending Hamlin College at St. Paul; Walter L. attends the New Richmond High School, and Arthur M. is at home. Mr. Erikson votes independently and has

held a number of public offices, such as side supervisor, chairman of the town and member of the school board.

**L. L. Kidder** was born in Genesee county, New York state, July 28, 1835, a son of Lyman and Harriet (Bass) Kidder, who came to St. Croix county in 1858 and settled at Huntington, buying land and continuing the farm industry. L. L. Kidder worked on the farm with his father in the early days and attended the public schools, receiving the usual training of the boys of that period. In 1860 he was married to Charlotte Bowman, daughter of William Bowman. This union was blessed with three children: Samuel is in Seattle, Wash.; Sadie is in Grand Forks, N. D., and William is in St. Paul, Minn. In 1864 he enlisted in Hatch's independent batallion and served on the frontier of Minnesota and Dakota, being mustered out in 1866. He then returned to this county and took up a farm of forty acres, which he broke and improved, doing all the plowing himself. Upon this place he continued to live, carrying on general farming, raising the usual crops and breeding some live stock and poultry. After winning success and making a small fortune, he retired a few years ago. He is now resting after many years of hard work, leasing his farm to another party. He keeps a fine driving team, owns his own place, has hosts of friends and enjoys himself in a way that few old men have the strength or opportunity to enjoy themselves. Mr. Kidder is an old-time Democrat and still continues to vote that ticket. He has for many years been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

**August Larson** is a native of Norway, born December 1, 1862. His parents came to the United States in 1869, settling first in Polk county, Wisconsin, where they took up farming and remained for two years, afterward coming to this county, where the father died in 1878. There were five children in the family, all of whom are still alive. August has lived in St. Croix county twenty-five years. He received his education in the public schools and worked on the farm with his father. He now owns eighty acres of well-improved land in Star Prairie township, which he broke and developed himself. Mr. Larson was married in 1886 to Jennie Setterlund, a daughter of Lewis and Christina Setterlund, old settlers of this county. This union has been blessed with seven children: Elbin L., Reuben E., Elmer R., Grace, Ruth, Evelyn and Lucille, all of whom are at home. Mr. Larson is a Republican in politics and has always been a faithful adherent of that party. For five years he was chairman of Star Prairie township and for eight years he was a member of the school board. At the present time he is a candidate for the office of sheriff, a position which he is well qualified to fill. He affiliates with the Modern Woodmen of America.

**O. A. Olson** is a native of St. Croix county, born in the village of Star Prairie April 10, 1879, a son of Martin and Anna (Riesendal) Olson, natives of Norway, who came to this country in the early days of the county and settled at Hudson, Wis. The father was a tailor by trade, successfully pursuing this trade until the time of his death, in 1903. O. A. Olson was educated in the common schools of this county and then went west, clerking in various stores. In 1899 he came to Star Prairie and engaged in the mercantile business, which he has since followed, his experience in handling goods as a clerk standing him in good stead in the management of his business. In 1906 he opened his present well-equipped store and was appointed postmaster of Star Prairie village, a position which he still retains, and in which he has given great satisfaction. He owns a fine piece of property adjoining his store and fifteen acres of land inside the corporation limits of the village as well as a beautiful residence. Mr. Olson is a self-made man, and owes everything that he has to hard labor and industry. As a postmaster he is affable and accurate and as a merchant he is highly regarded for his honesty and integrity.

**G. W. Smith** was born in New York city, November 24, 1844, a son of G. M. and Martha (Powell) Smith, of whom brief mention is found in the sketch of J. Wesley Smith, in another part of this volume. He attended the public schools of New York city and did his first work on his father's farm in St. Croix county. July 12, 1867, he was married to Jennie Smith, by whom he has one son, Charles H., who helps to run the farm at home. This farm consists of 170 acres of rich land under the plow and about fifteen acres of fine woodland, making in all a 125-acre farm, of which any man might well be proud. The place is well improved, the house is kept in a way which testifies to Mrs. Smith's ability as a housekeeper and the barns are large and well equipped. Mr. Smith raises general crops and breeds some livestock. He has followed his father in the faith of the Methodist church and he is an active worker in that body. His services and his pocketbook are always at the service of any good cause, and he has the interests of his church deep at heart. He is a Republican in politics, but has never sought public office, although he has sincere convictions on the subject of public affairs and events. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were known for their hospitality, their liberality and for their work in every good cause.

**J. Wesley Smith** is a native of New York city, born in East Eleventh street, June 9, 1857, son of George N. and Martha (Powell) Smith. The father came to the St. Croix valley in 1863 and settled on 320 acres in Star Prairie township, Wisconsin, where his son, J. Wesley, still resides. The father was a drayman

in New York city, but upon coming to this section took up the occupation of farming for a number of years. He was a devout member of the Methodist church. His wife passed to her reward in 1887, strong in the faith of the same church, and shortly afterward, George N. went to Los Angeles, remaining there for the remainder of his life, with the exception of one and a half years. He died October 2, 1894.

J. Wesley came to this section with his parents, receiving a good common school education, working with his father until 1874, when he took charge of the farm, which at that time consisted of 240 acres. In 1880 he married Minnie Sweet, daughter of Jerome Sweet, a blacksmith at Milton, Wis., who had enlisted in the army while still under his majority as sergeant of Company K, Thirteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. The union has been blessed with two stalwart boys, Gilbert Clyde and Perry Floyd. Mr. Smith owns the 320 acres of land, half of the farm being in Star Prairie and the other half in Richmond township. Upon this farm he carried on general farming, raising the usual crops and breeding thoroughbred Poland China hogs and shorthorn cattle. The place is well improved, most of the developments having been made by Mr. Smith himself. For twenty-six years Mr. Smith has been a Mason, and both he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star. Both are also leading workers and members in the Methodist Episcopal church, in which Mr. Smith has held all the lay offices. He is a Republican in politics and has been postmaster of the town and a member of the school board. He is prosperous and successful and stands high in the esteem of all who know him.

## STAR PRAIRIE VILLAGE.

Star Prairie has a population of 264, Congregational and Episcopal churches, three general stores, one millinery store, one flour mill, one hardware store, and one establishment carrying hardware and agricultural implements, one hardware and furniture, mercantile company (branch of Somerset), and one creamery (branch of New Richmond).

**H. L. Bixby** was born in Norridgewock, Me., in 1840, son of Rufus and Betsy (Weston) Bixby, who lived and died on a farm in Maine. They had eleven children, seven of whom still survive. The father was one of the prominent men in his town, active in politics and an officeholder. H. L. Bixby was educated in the excellent common schools of Maine and worked for his father several years. In 1872 he came to St. Croix county, and locating at Star Prairie, he established a department store, which he operated for twenty-two years, when he left it to the charge of his son. When the store was established there was but one busi-

ness house in Star Prairie. The business in the Bixby store has increased until now it has reached proportions unusual in a village of the size of Star Prairie. Mr. Bixby was married in 1867 to Mary Warren, by whom he has two children: Lizzie R. Bixby is married to John McKoy, a banker of New Richmond; A. P. Bixby married Verna Hight, of Athens, Me. He runs his father's business. Mr. Bixby was married the second time in 1880 to Mary Simpson Philbrick, whose parents lived and died in Maine. Mr. Bixby is a Republican in politics, and has served as chairman of the town of Star Prairie. For over forty years he has been a Mason. He also affiliates with the Royal Arch Chapter and the I. O. O. F., while both he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star. In 1861, Mr. Bixby enlisted in Company D, Ninth Maine Volunteer Infantry, and served in the Army of the South. He participated in the siege of Charleston and in the Battle of Cold Harbor, including all the skirmishes of that campaign. He was given a commission as first lieutenant in 1863 and served until his discharge, in 1865, at the close of the war. For nineteen years Mr. Bixby has owned and operated the Star Prairie mill. He has been the possessor of several thousand acres of land, and has made a business of buying and selling real estate. At the present time he owns 160 acres in the Imperial valley, California, where he has spent several winters and where he is now preparing to move as soon as he disposes of his property here. Mr. Bixby has been a very successful man, and the people of the township, while wishing him all success and happiness in his new field, will regret that he has not chosen to spend his declining years in the town in which he worked so hard when in his prime.

**Carl Fylpaa** is a native of Norway, born in 1855, a son of A. M. and Johanna Fylpaa, who lived and died in their native country. Carl came to the United States in 1872 and located in Minnesota, spending one year at Madelia. Subsequently he spent a year at La Crosse, Wis., and then came to Baldwin, this county, engaging in the drug business for two years. In 1876 he moved to Star Prairie village, this county, and established his present business. The store was started on a small scale and has increased in importance until now he and his partner, Adolph Anderson, have a big double store and command the leading trade in the township. The concern carries a general line of goods of the best quality, and both the partners are known for their honest dealings and fair methods. They are known and liked for several townships around. Mr. Fylpaa was married in 1878 to Ida C. Heiberg and has four children: Clarence, Arnold, Eleanor and Olga. He is a Republican in politics, has served as treasurer of the village, and as a member of the school board. For many years he has been a Mason and he and his wife are

members of the Eastern Star. Mr. Fylpaa started life as a poor boy and has made all that he possesses by his own hard work.

**H. E. Perrin** was born in St. Croix county May 30, 1869, son of William Louis and Julia (Loring) Perrin. The father was born in Malone, Franklin county, N. Y., in 1825. In 1851 he came to what is now the township of Kinnickinnic, St. Croix county and at once started developing land. In 1858 he was married to Julia F. Loring, who died in 1894. By this union four children still survive: Solon L., of Superior, Wis.; Frank L., of St. Louis, Mo.; Dr. Harry E. Perrin, the subject of this sketch, and Mrs. Mabel S. Titus, of Los Angeles, Cal. During the '70s and '80s, Mr. Perrin, Sr., was one of the Democratic leaders of the county. He was twice elected county clerk and his advice and counsel were often sought in the conduct of the political campaigns of the district. He took up his residence in River Falls in 1887, and served that village as mayor for one term. He was a man of principle, whose word in all the affairs of life was as good as his bond. Just to all men, he was honored and respected. Affectionate, unselfish and upright, he was loved and revered by those who bear his name and knew best the depth and warmth of his heart. Harry E. Perrin received a good education in the public schools and then took a course in the State Normal school at River Falls, Wis., afterward attending the Northwestern university, at Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1894. He located at once in Star Prairie, where he has since continued practice. His skill, his personality and his knowledge of medicine have built him up a large practice, and he is now one of the leading physicians and surgeons of this section of the state. September 8, 1896, in Ashland, Wis., he was married to Mary Hallett, daughter of John Paul and Nancy L. (Strangeway) Hallett. Her parents were natives of New York state and came to the St. Croix valley in the '50s. The father was roadmaster on the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railway. He died in 1895. Dr. and Mrs. Perrin have three children: Elizabeth, Stuart and Eugenie. Dr. Perrin owns a fine property in Star Prairie, Wis. He is a Democrat in politics, but has not sought public office, choosing rather to devote all his time to his profession. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Knights of Pythias and the Maccabees. He and his wife are members of the Eastern Star.

**W. A. Shurtz** was born in MacKean county, Pennsylvania, in 1848, a son of Elias and Emaline (Arnold) Shurtz. The father was a lumberman and farmer in Wayne county, New York. W. A. was educated in MacKean county and at Port Allegheny, Penn. In 1872 he moved to Dunn county, Wisconsin, and worked at lumbering and farming for eighteen years, lumbering the entire

length of the Menominee waters. In 1892 he purchased the Apple River Hotel property at Star Prairie, in which township he has been living on a farm for two years. Since then he has continued to run the hotel. In addition to the village property he has 178 acres of land in Star Prairie township and 800 acres in Dunn county. Mr. Shurtz was married in 1871 in Hardin county, to Frances Bishop, of Rochester, N. Y. By this union there was one child, Alma, a trained nurse in Seattle, Wash. He was married the second time, in 1888, to Lottie Conners, daughter of Mike H. and Maria (Barnhart) Conners. By this marriage he has had no children. Mr. Shurtz is a member of the Star Prairie Lodge No. 209, I. O. O. F. He has been president and director of the village and while in Dunn county served on the side board. He is a successful and well liked citizen, highly regarded by all his friends. As a landlord he has a wide acquaintance among the traveling fraternity and is known far and wide as a man of affable temperament and accommodating spirit.

## ST. JOSEPH TOWNSHIP.

St. Joseph township lies on the western shores of Lake St. Croix, opposite the city of Stillwater, to which it is connected by a bridge. It includes the three lower tiers of sections of township 30, range 19, parts of range 20 and the six upper sections of township 29, range 19. It is drained by Willow river and by creeks flowing into Lake St. Croix. Its surface varies from undulating to hilly. It has several small bodies of water, including Lake Balsam, in the eastern part. It also has two high ridges of land, which serve as conspicuous landmarks. The earliest settlement was in 1850 and the organization was perfected in 1858. A railroad passes through the southeastern corner and the people are within easy distance of both Hudson and Stillwater. The village of Burkhardt is located near its borders. The township covers 20,904 acres, having an average value of $19. The people in the township have 425 horses, valued at $25,500; 1,350 neat cattle, valued at $18,900; 400 sheep and lambs, valued at $1,200; 180 swine, valued at $900. The total value of real estate is $397,300; of personal property, $121,600, making a grand total of $518,900. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in St. Joseph township in 1908: Wheat, 178; corn, 476; oats, 3,505; barley, 633; rye, 1,118; flaxseed, 12; potatoes, 85; hay, 2,077.

Houlton, connected with Stillwater by a wagon bridge, has a population of 345, and has three saloons, one dealer in boots and shoes and harness, one dealer in hardware and meat, one general store, one grocery store, a blacksmith shop and a creamery.

**Charles Andett** is a native of Michigan, born in June, 1853. He is the son of Charles and Florence Andett. Charles, Sr., was a clerk in Canada, where he was born, but upon coming to Wisconsin in 1853 he took up farming, which he followed until the time of his death. Charles, Jr., after completing his education in the common schools also adopted farming as an occupation. He owns 240 acres of land, 200 of which are under the plow. All the breaking up and clearing was done by Mr. Andett and he made all the improvements on the place. He carries on general farming and stock raising. For twenty years he has run a threshing machine, which he has used in all parts of this section of the country. Mr. Andett, who votes the Democratic ticket, has served on the side board for two years. He has also held all the school offices. He is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters. He was married in 1876 to Mary Adams, by whom he has a family of eight children: Christian, William, Freddie, Lena, Emma, Annie, Jennie and Lottie. Mr. Andett is known in the community as a hard working citizen, always ready to shoulder his share of any effort that he believes to be for the good of the community at large. Mr. Andett resides in St. Joseph township.

**Julius Beer** is a native of Aldenburg, Saxony, Germany, born on the 28th day of November, 1843. He is the son of Michael and Mary Beer, who came to the United States in the early days and located in Cook county, Illinois, where they remained twelve years and then died. In 1869 Julius Beer came to Hudson, Wis., and settled on a farm. A short time afterward he started a cheese factory, being the first person to start an establishment for the manufacturing of that article in St. Croix county. He continued to make cheese for twelve years, until 1882, when he abandoned this for other enterprises. He still owns his original farm and has gradually added to it until today he is the possessor of 600 acres, all of which, with the exception of eighty acres in Hudson, are in St. Joseph township. For some years Mr. Beer has run a general store at Burkhardt, carrying a large stock of goods and doing a big business. He is a Republican in politics and has been town clerk. In 1905 he served in the legislature. At the present time he is chairman of the town board of St. Joseph. He was married in Cook county, Illinois, to Ellen Thaka and has six children: Frank, William, Albert, Ernest, Lena and Laura. All are married and have homes of their own, with the exception of William and Ernest, who have remained on the farm. Mr. Beer shows his good business judgment in the way he conducts his store, and his honesty and integrity have given him a high place among his fellow citizens.

**Warren D. Chapman** served in Company H of the famous Thirteenth New York Heavy Artillery during the War of the Re-

bellion. He was born in Champlain, Clinton county, N. Y., May 7, 1843, son of Jason L. and Nancy (Hitchcock) Chapman. Jason L. Chapman was a well known and able New York attorney. Warren D. Chapman spent his early life in the Empire state, receiving a good common school education. In 1863 he enlisted and served in the Army of the James. He was mustered out in 1865. After the war Mr. Chapman took up his profession of making paper, working in several of the eastern states. Three years of this time were spent in Massachusetts. In 1877 he came to St. Croix county and for four years he taught school in Burkhardt. Later he took up 120 acres of land, which he grubbed and broke, making all improvements. He was married in 1863 to Electa Mooers, who was also from Champlain, N. Y. They have had seven children: Maude A.; I. Walter, of Minneapolis; Nancy, deceased; Helen L., and Willie C., deceased; Carson W., of Hudson, and Aggie A. Mr. Chapman is a Republican, and has served as town clerk. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity. Stock buying has occupied more or less of the attention of Mr. Chapman throughout his life. His amusing stories of experiences in this line during the early days are well worth listening to and verify his claims that he has had more fun trading than any other man in the county.

**Thomas Frawley,** a native of Ireland, was one of the early settlers of St. Croix county. A farmer nearly all his life, he has many interesting stories to tell of the days when the sturdy pioneers used a cradle and a flail, and when practically all the work of clearing and breaking the land had to be done without the aid of machinery. He grubbed and dveloped his farm, which is about four miles from the city of Stillwater, in St. Joseph township, and made it one of the fertile spots for which the valley is noted. Although he received but a meager education, he is noted for his good sense and good judgment. Associated with him and in charge of the farm at the present time is his son, J. E. Frawley, who looks after the 240 acres in an able manner. J. E. received a common school education and is now serving his first term on the side board. He is also a member of the school board and one of the active advocates of the farmers' telephone, having spent considerable time in getting the line into operation. Both father and son are Democrats in politics and the son is a popular member of the Hibernian Lodge at Stillwater. Such men as Thomas Frawley, who have grown up with the country, are the ones who by their industry and hard work paved the way for the wonderful prosperity that has since come to the valley.

**James Pryor** lives on his well developed farm in the town of Richmond, about seven miles from the city of New Richmond. Here he breeds shorthorn cattle and does diversified farming,

raising oats, hay, barley and potatoes. His public record includes eight years as treasurer, nine years as postmaster and thirteen years as chairman of the town. Mr. Pryor was born in Ireland, 1840. His parents, John B. and Alice (Costello) Pryor, who were well known farmers of County Lathrop, lived and died in Ireland. As a boy, James received a common school education and assisted his father until 1863, when he came to New York and secured employment in a malt house. Then he worked in the woods of Erin, St. Croix county, for three years. After this he bought 120 acres of land in Richmond township. This he cultivated and built a house, barns and outbuildings. Later he bought forty acres of timber land. In 1873 he was married to Lizzie, daughter of Patrick Ward. He has had nine children: John, who was killed in the cyclone of 1899; James, Jr., who is at home on the farm; Francis, who is a collector for a Chicago laundry; Mary Alice; Josephine, a trained nurse at St. Joseph's hospital, New Richmond; Anna, at home; George, who runs a cigar store in Canada; Leo Walter, who lives in Richmond, and a son who died in infancy. Mr. Prior is a member of the Society of Equity. He has been a hard worker all his life and his rise from a poor boy to his present prosperity and position has been entirely due to his own honest energies.

**Christ Schafer** is the son of William and Elizabeth (Bishoff) Shafer, who lived and died in Germany. He was born in that country on the 13th day of May, 1859, and came to America on the 2d day of November, 1884. He settled first in Somerset township and then in Cumberland. The following spring he went to Minneapolis, and in 1886 went to North Dakota, returning in the fall of that year to Minneapolis, and remaining until the fall of 1891, when he bought his present farm of 360 acres of well tilled land in St. Joseph township, Wisconsin, upon which he made most of the improvements. He married Hanna Simon, a native of St. Croix county. She was the daughter of Christ and Mary (Harber) Simon. Mr. Simon landed at St. Anthony Falls in 1851, and later came to St. Croix county, where he devoted his life to farming. Mr. Schafer has six children: Fred, Otto, Peter, Annie Bennie and Mary. An independent voter, he has occupied several important positions, being town chairman two years and school officer nine years. He was chairman of the Republican committee of St. Joseph township for four years. He is a member of the Sons of Herman and president of the A. S. of E. In many ways Mr. Schafer has contributed to the growth and business interests of the St. Croix valley.

**Henry F. Schroeder** has lived for thirty-five years on the farm he now occupies. He was born near Kiel, Holstein, Germany, October 23, 1850, the son of John Schroeder, who served four

years in the War of 1848, in Germany, and by prudent conduct and courage won the favor of his superiors and rose to high rank. The family came to the United States in 1858. For a time they lived in Stillwater, afterwards moving to Farmington, Polk county, Wis. In 1865 they came to St. Croix county, and here John Schroeder continued farming until a short time before his death, which occurred at Stillwater, Minn. Henry, the eldest of the family, after growing up to manhood, spent his winters as teamster in the woods and for a number of autumns was a well-known thresher in his community. After this he took up farming. He now owns 200 acres of land, 130 of which are under cultivation. This farm was developed by Mr. Schroeder, he having stumped and broken it and erected thereon a fine house, roomy barns and other buildings. He is an independent voter and served on the town board four years. He was also town treasurer four years and is a member of the Sons of Herman. Mr. Schroeder was married in 1880 to Johanna Rehder, then a school teacher of St. Croix county. She is a sister of E. B. Rehder, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this volume. The union has been blessed with three children: Josephine, Lurenia, a school teacher of St. Joseph township, and Dorothy, all three daughters living at home. Mr. Schroeder's farm is regarded as one of the model ones in this section.

**O. H. Steindorff** has grown up with the prosperity of this section of the country, having been born in Washington county, Minnesota, near Stillwater, on the 19th day of August, 1873. He is the son of Otto and Augusta (Heyer) Steindorff, who came from New York state in the early days and still reside in Washington county. O. H. Steindorff received a common school education and for a term of one year he clerked in a clothing store. Then he began farming, which occupation engages his attention at the present time. He bought 120 acres of land in the town of St. Joseph and gradually made improvements until now he has the land under full cultivation, with modern improvements and a comfortable home, all of which are the fruits of Mr. Steindorff's own efforts. Upon the farm there are two fine bodies of spring water known as Stone lake, and the revenue that he receives from the ice nets him a snug sum yearly. For some years Mr. Steindorff raised pure bred Berkshire hogs on a somewhat extensive scale, but he abandoned this on account of the scarcity of help. He has also been more or less a breeder of cattle. Mr. Steindorff is a member of the I. O. R. M., the Sons of Herman, A. S. of E. and A. F. of M. He was married in 1898 to Edith, daughter of Michael Thelen, whose sketch appears elsewhere. Few men in this vicinity have the knowledge of books that is possessed by Mr. Steindorff. He is a lover of good reading

and his books keep him well abreast of the trend of modern thought in all lines. He has a good library, which covers many and diversified subjects. He is a lover of music and is an orchestra leader. He performs with skill on the violin, his favorite instrument. Mrs. Steindorff also being a musician, many hours are pleasantly spent at their favorite pastime.

**Michael Thelen** is a native of Germany. He was born near the historic Rhine on the 14th day of February, 1831. He came to America in 1856, locating at once in Minnesota. At that time Stillwater was a larger place than St. Paul. After a short period, Mr. Thelen moved to St. Joseph township, in 1857, and in 1863 he located on his present farm. This he purchased, although he also had a government claim in another part of the county. His property at the present time is an example of what may be accomplished by hard labor under unfavorable conditions, for the now well tilled acres were originally a wild tract of woodland, cleared by Mr. Thelen's own exertions. When he started farming Mr. Thelen used a cradle and a flail in place of the modern machinery with which the place is now equipped. He has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits and is still engaged in general farming and stock raising upon his 280 acres. He has raised a large family, several of the members of which still live at home and assist their father in his work. Mr. Thelen is a Democrat in politics, but has never sought public office. He is one of those men whose word can always be relied upon and whose solid, good judgment, is highly valued by his friends. Mr. Thelen was married in 1859 to Mary Magney, who was born near the Rhine in Germany and came to America in 1852. The children are as follows: Catharine, Bernhard B., Anna, Elizabeth, John P. Frank, who died in 1882; Edith, Mathias J., Lena, Emma and Carrie.

## TROY TOWNSHIP.

Troy township is in the southwestern corner of the county, bounded by Hudson, Warren and Kinnickinnic townships and Lake St. Croix. It is within easy distance of Hudson, is crossed by a railroad and contains an overflow of the residence portions of River Falls. It is a township of rich land, mostly rolling, with some ridges and highlands. The scene along the line of the railroad is picturesque and denotes a rich farming country, with prosperous, well-kept farmhouses and neat looking stock. It contains the village of Glenmont and several small stations. The present township embraces township 28, range 19, and three additional sections in township 28, range 19. It has a fine frontage of bluffs on the lake. It is drained by the Kinnickinnic river and smaller creeks, and contains 25,265 acres of land with

an average value of $19. In 1851 the township was organized and was called Malone by the Perrin brothers, who came from New York, where they had lived in a village of that name. The name was later changed to Troy, but whether in honor of Troy, N. Y., or of that ancient Troy sung of by the poets, history does not relate. The first settler in what is now Troy township was James Chinnock, who came to Hudson in 1850 and at once located a claim in what is now Troy township. He raised the first crop in the township and erected a house, making his home on the farm as a greater protection against the Indians. William L. Perrin was another early settler. The farmers of the township have 565 horses, valued at $33,900; 1,350 neat cattle, valued at $18,900; 400 sheep and lambs, valued at $1,200; 180 swine, valued at $900. The total value of real estate is $741,800, of personal property, $94,700, making a grand total of $836,500. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in Troy township in 1908: Wheat, 456; corn, 1,949; oats, 5,026; barley, 2,082; rye, 744; flaxseed, 190; potatoes, 508; other crops, 133; 694 bearing apple trees; strawberries, ½; raspberries, 3⅝; hay 5,096; timber, 2,685.

**George W. Chinnock, Jr.,** was born on the Chinnock homestead in Troy township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, on October 25, 1868, his father being George W. Chinnock, now residing in the town of River Falls and president of the Farmers' and Merchants' State bank at that place. The subject of this sketch was educated in the public schools of Troy township and the State Normal school at River Falls. He then entered the Red Wing Business college, at Red Wing, Minn., where he was graduated and entered the machinery business in River Falls, which he conducted two years, then removing to Minneapolis, where he resided for two years. In 1891 Mr. Chinnock married May Gibbs, of River Falls, and they are the parents of two boys: Stanley and Dwight Chinnock. Mr. Chinnock has been engaged in conducting the old homestead, where he was born, ever since his return from Minneapolis. He has always evinced a keen interest in public affairs in Troy township and St. Croix county, and is most prominent and influential in shaping and directing public sentiment, and gives freely of his time and means in laboring for the best welfare of the community without hope or thought of reward. He has been a delegate to many of the conventions of the Republican party of recent years, but has never sought office. He has, however, been selected by the citizens of Troy township to serve as assessor, which position he occupied for two years, passing from that to township clerk, which he retained for six consecutive years, and has been for the past three years chairman of the Troy township board, which place he still occupies. Mr. Chinnock is a communicant of the Methodist Episcopal

church, and is a member of the Masonic order and the Modern Woodmen of America.

**Freeman Chinnock** was born in Brookville, St. Croix county, Wis., in September, 1858, son of James H. and Eleanor (Wilhelm) Chinnock. James H. came to America from Somersetshire, England, in 1844, and settled at Bloomfield, Ohio, where he married Eleanor Wilhelm. After living there for several years he moved to Pennsylvania, thence to Brookville, Wis., and from there to Pierce county, Wis., where he lived until his death, May 17, 1892. Freeman was educated in the Glass Valley schools and has followed the occupation of farming ever since. He married Miss Ellen Kelly, of Kinnickinnic township, a daughter of Patrick and Nancy Kelly. Mrs. Ellen Kelly Chinnock was born March 28, 1853. Her father was born in 1832 and died September 5, 1900. Her mother was born in 1827 and died in 1899. Mr. Chinnock is an active member of the Democratic party of St. Croix county, but has never accepted any political positions in its ranks. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. His farm in Troy township embraces 120 acres, most of which is under cultivation.

**John A. Chinnock** was born in Warren, Trumbull county, Ohio, on March 23, 1850, and was brought to St. Croix county by his parents when a year old. He received his early education in the city schools of Hudson and then attended classes at Hinckley institute in River Falls until twenty years of age. He then engaged in farm work during the summer of 1870, and rented the farm from his employer the following year. In 1872 Mr. Chinnock leased a farm near the city of Hudson, which he conducted for one year. In 1874 Mr. Chinnock purchased 120 acres in section 14, township 28, range 19, which he still owns. In 1885 he bought another farm of 160 acres in sections 21 and 22, of which he is still possessed. June 1, 1881, witnessed the marriage of our subject to Ella Mapes, of Kinnickinnic township. They are the parents of two daughters, one of whom is now Mrs. Mabel Miller of Golden, Colo., and Mrs. Elva E. Reid, of Hot Springs, Ark. Mr. Chinnock has been, during his long residence in St. Croix county, one of the most prominent Republicans of Troy township and has been its representative on the floor of many congressional, senatorial and judicial conventions during the past twenty years. In local affairs Mr. Chinnock has been public spirited at all times and has labored tirelessly for the betterment of the community. He has been called upon by his neighbors to serve them in many ways. He was chairman of the Troy township board for a number of years, and was selected as the chairman of the county board for one term. The name of John A. Chinnock will be found among the list of charter members of the

Old Settlers' Association, and he has held the office of secretary for several years, and which he still holds. He is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons and also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Mr. Chinnock has found time from his public and private business to take a deep interest in historical matters relating to the early settlement of the St. Croix valley. He has preserved many valuable items of historic interest and his paper, read before the Old Settlers' Club at its annual meeting in New Richmond, in 1900, attracted much attention and was widely published. He was nominated September 1, 1908, at the Republican primaries as a member of the assembly of St. Croix county.

**Nicholas Moelter** was born in Germany September 25, 1846, son of John and Margaret Jenges Moelter. He was educated in the city and high school of Haragersper, Germany, and enlisted in the German army when twenty years of age and served through the German-Franco war. After the close of the war he engaged in farming in Germany until 1876, when he came to America, arriving in Hudson, Wis., May 6, 1876, and left shortly afterwards for California, where he remained two years. He returned to Wisconsin, marrying Miss Elizabeth Knott, of Somerset, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, and they are the parents of four sons and five daughters, all living. Shortly after his marriage Mr. Moelter engaged in the restaurant business in Osceola, Polk county, Wis., which he conducted for five years, then moving to Hudson, where he purchased the St. Croix Hotel property, which he owned for many years. He farmed for some time on the L. Del farm, where O. H. Steindorff now resides. In 1901 he came to Troy township and took up his residence at the home of his oldest son, J. L. Moelter, with whom he and his wife now reside. Mr. Moelter is a member of the German Catholic church and he also belongs to the Knights of Columbus. In politics he is a Democrat, but has never been forwardly active in public affairs.

**John L. Noyes,** who is one of the most prosperous and well known residents of Troy township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, was born in Wyoming county, New York, on April 7, 1836, his parents being Moody and Mary Aldrich Noyes. Mr. Noyes attended the public schools of Wyoming county until his removal to St. Croix county, where he finished his education in the Hudson High school in 1857, one year after his arrival there. Was engaged in farm work for several years after leaving school and in 1860 purchased eighty acres in section 17, of Troy township, which he has increased by purchase at different times until it now comprises 460 acres, 300 of which is under cultivation, which embodies the most modern methods of agriculture. In 1863 Mr. Noyes abandoned his farm to enlist in Company A of the Forty-

fourth Wisconsin, and served as a private in the Federal Army until honorably discharged, in 1865. After the disbanding of the army Mr. Noyes returned to the peaceful pursuit of tilling the soil, and in 1866 took unto himself a helpmeet, his choice falling upon Elizabeth Lewis, of Hudson. Mr. and Mrs. Noyes are the parents of four children: Theodore, Bertram M., Benjamin and Mrs. C. Edmund Wasson. The eldest son is engaged in travel, while the two younger brothers remain with their parents and have active charge of the large home farm. Mr. Noyes has been elected to nearly every official position in the government of Troy township during his forty-eight years of residence there. He has been a member of the Republican party ever since arriving of age, but has always refrained from seeking public office.

**Swan A. Peterson** was born in Sweden March 27, 1860, his parents being Peter Hokeson and Ellen Nelson Hokeson. Mr. Peterson received his education in the public schools of his native land and emigrated to America when nineteen years of age, coming direct to Clifton township, in Pierce county, Wisconsin. He soon secured employment on a farm there. He remained in Clifton township for several years and then removed to Stillwater, Minn., where he remained two years, working in the woods during the winters. Having saved the greater part of his earnings during the years he had been in this country Mr. Peterson now decided to establish himself as a farmer, and purchased his present farm in Troy township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, where he has since resided. In 1884 Mr. Peterson married Ellen Nelson, of Troy township. By an unusual coincidence Mrs. Peterson possessed the same name as his mother before her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are the parents of six children, all of whom are living and the eldest, a daughter, is the mistress of a home of her own, having married Oswald Solhime, of Hudson, Wis. The other children are: Esther and Laura, who are twins; Hattie, George and Mildred. Our subject was reared in the Swedish Lutheran faith and with his family are still members of that denomination. In politics Mr. Peterson has always been a consistent Republican, but has never cared for public office. He has devoted most of his time to the management of his fine farm, 140 acres of which he maintains in a high state of cultivation.

**Alexander H. Slater** was born in Walkerton, Bruce county, Ontario, August 4, 1863, while his parents were there on a visit. He was educated in the city schools of Hudson, Wis., and went to the farm, where he now resides with his parents, in 1879, remaining there until 1888, when he removed to Grand Forks county, North Dakota, where he was engaged in farming for one year. In 1890 he returned to Hudson, Wis., where he embarked in the lumber business, with which he was identified until 1900, when

he again returned to the old homestead, in section 10, of the township of Troy. Mr. Slater, in 1900, married Mary L. McDiermaid, of Hudson, Wis., the wedding occurring in Ward county, North Dakota. They are the parents of one child, William Richard Slater, born in 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Slater are members of the Presbyterian church. In politics Mr. Slater is a Republican. He is an Odd Fellow and a Forester. He is the holder of a block of stock in the American Society of Equity Elevator Company, of River Falls, Wis. The Slater homestead contains 160 acres, all of which, save forty acres, is maintained in a high state of cultivation.

**C. Edmund Wasson** is a native of the St. Croix valley, and first saw the light of day in Prescott, Pierce county, Wis., on December 18, 1875, his parents being James Wasson and Etta (Grandboys) Wasson. The elder Wasson settled in Pierce county in 1866. Edmund attended the public school until he had mastered its curriculum, when he was sent to Hudson, where he finished his education in the schools of that place. The young man then returned to his father's farm, where he assisted in its maintenance until reaching his twenty-third year, when he married Elizabeth M. Noyes, the only daughter of John L. Noyes, one of the oldest settlers of Troy township. He established a home for his bride by purchasing his present farm in section 20 of Troy township, which he still owns and makes his home. Mr. and Mrs. Wasson have a family of four robust boys and one beautiful daughter, and the names of the children in the order of their birth are as follows: Leonard Gerald, Harold Edmund, James Bertram, Ida May and Clarence Floyd. The Wasson family attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Wasson has never been prominent in politics, but subscribes to the declarations of the Republican party.

**Rufus R. Young,** who is one of the prominent and oldest settlers in Troy township, was born in Newark, N. J., August 9, 1839. He came to the St. Croix valley with his parents in 1855, having first finished his education in the Newark city schools and Newark academy, when he attended, for a time, Hampden academy in Hampden, Me. His father, Shebna S. Young, before coming to Wisconsin, was a captain of a sailing vessel engaged in the Atlantic coast-wise trade for many years. Upon his arrival in Wisconsin he engaged in the lumber business for five years, when he removed to Troy township, where our subject still resides. Shebna S. Young died in 1887, and his wife, Emelma Barton Young, passed away in 1896. Rufus R. Young taught school two years before enlisting in the Union army, joining Company A, of the Thirtieth Wisconsin, in 1862, and wore a uniform until mustered out after the close of the war, in 1865. Mr. Young did

not see much active service on the battle field for the reason that during the first two years of his enlistment he was attached to the quartermaster's department, and for the remainder of one year was retained as a military secretary to Major General John M. Palmer in headquarters in Louisville, Ky. In 1869 Mr. Young was joined in holy matrimony to Ellen Patterson, of Rockford, Ill., to whom two sons, Clarence and Herbert, were born. The eldest son died in 1898. Mr. Young was elected register of deeds for St. Croix county in 1871 and served out his term of two years, when he was retained as deputy for four years by his successor to the office. Mr. Young has held at different times all of the several township offices and was for four years chairman of the town board. He served as township treasurer for one term and was also assessor for a number of years.

Mr. Young has always been a member of the Baptist church. He is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and has attended a number of the national encampments of that organization. He is one of the charter members of the old settlers' association and was secretary of the association during the first three years of its existence. The only fraternal order to which Mr. Young belongs is the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics Mr. Young has always been prominently identified with the Republican party and is a valued member of its councils, and has represented the local organization in many county, senatorial, judicial and congressional conventions. Mrs. Young died in 1891. Mr. Young owns 120 acres of choice farm land in sections 7 and 18 of Troy township, and he still personally directs its management. His son, Herbert, resides on the adjoining farm, which was formerly owned by his uncle, Charles Young. Herbert Young was educated in the public schools of Troy township and the Hudson High school. He is married, his wife being Ada Griffin, daughter of Lester Griffin, of Troy township.

**Nelson A. Younggren** is one of the most influential young men in Troy township. He was born in Clifton township, Pierce county, Wisconsin, his parents being Swen Younggren and Hannah Nelson Younggren. He dates his age from February 7, 1870. His father was one of the early settlers in the St. Croix valley, coming to America in 1854 and settling in Marine, Minn., where he resided ten years before moving to Clifton township, where he resided until his death, September 28, 1899. His wife survived him nine years, her death occurring February 5, 1908. The subject of this sketch received his early education in Troy District No. 5, and finished it with a high school course. He was married in 1897 to Nancy Weberg, of Clifton township, and they are the parents of two daughters, Helen and Alpha. Mr. Younggren is a member of the Baptist church and also belongs to one society,

the Beaver lodge. Mr. Younggren has been active in public affairs ever since attaining his majority and has been identified with the Republican party of St. Croix county. He has been a member of the side board and also on the school board of Troy township for several years and served as town assessor two terms. He owns a farm of 170 acres, all of which is under cultivation, with the exception of a few acres occupied by a number of large farm buildings and his commodious and modern home.

## WARREN TOWNSHIP.

Warren is one of the interior townships of St. Croix county. It is bounded by Richmond, Hammond, Kinnickinnic, Hudson and St. Joseph townships, and has one village, Roberts, a hustling place with stores, a hall, mills, hotel, shops and the like. The township includes township 29, range 18, and is a rich prairie land, drained by the waters of the Kinnickinnic and Willow rivers. It contains 22,623 acres with an average value of $33.73, among the highest in the county. George Longworth and family, of Waukegan, Ill., settled here in October, 1855, and the following year Lyman and David Sanford made their homes here. Mr. Longworth, in 1856, broke the first ground on the land now within the limits of Hudson. Henry M. Sanford came to Warren in the spring of 1857. Warren was organized as a township in 1860, with the following supervisors: Beach Sanford, George Frissell and Seth Colbeth; L. J. Sanford, Clerk. A postoffice was established in 1860 with Mrs. Beach Sanford as postmistress at Warren village, now Roberts. The first school was taught in 1859 by Jane Sanford. There are in the township 630 horses, valued at $37,800; 1,600 neat cattle, valued at $18,900; 1,900 sheep and lambs, valued at $5,700; 600 swine, valued at $3,000. The total value of real estate is $815,700; of personal property, $105,800, making a total valuation of $921,500. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in Warren township in 1908: Wheat, 186; corn, 1,394; oats, 4,179; barley, 1,133; rye, 196; potatoes, 55; apples, 1½, with 135 trees; flax, 181; hay, 3,415; timber, 135.

**Mrs. C. S. Greenfield** was born in Canada, July 23, 1845, daughter of James and Mary (Henery) Runions. The father came to St. Croix Falls, Wis., in 1849. The following year he located in Hudson, Wis., and in 1861 came to Warren township, St. Croix county, where he bought 300 acres, upon which he spent his remaining years, until the time of his death. Miss Runions, now Mrs. Greenfield, received an excellent education in the common schools of Wisconsin, and remained at home with her parents until September 29, 1859, when she was united in matrimony with Philip Brady, a carpenter by trade. Mr. Brady was interested in public affairs and served as a member of the town board of War-

ren for several years. He died at his home in Warren in 1868, deeply mourned by all who knew him. By this marriage there were three children. Mary married William Johnson, a blacksmith of Hudson, Wis. Annie is the wife of Robert Douglass, a farmer of Warren township. Agnes married Grant Boardman, head miller at the New Richmond Rolling mills. A sketch of Mr. Boardman is found in this history. The subject of this sketch was next married to Clark Greenfield, of Hancock, Wis. He was a prominent farmer of that township, but immediately upon his marriage took up his home with his bride upon her farm in Warren township. They have added 240 acres to their original farm, making 540 acres in all. Mr. and Mrs. Greenfield are among the most successful and prominent farmers of the township. Mr. Greenfield is a staunch Republican. He has served the town of Warren as clerk and treasurer of the school board, also as postmaster of the town. Four children have blessed this union. Henry is a farmer in New Richmond township. Lester works at home on the farm. Medora married Frank Hennessy, a farmer in Warren township. Howard is at home on the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Greenfield are most highly thought of by all who know them. Mrs. Greenfield is an acute business woman, and her husband is an accomplished farmer. The farm is up to date in every particular and the home is such a one as to be rare outside of the big cities. It has telephone connections and is lighted with a modern gasoline system. Mrs. Robarge, a lady of extremely old age, has made her home with Mrs. Greenfield for some time. She came from Canada with Mrs. Greenfield in 1848, and was married to Mr. Robarge, a millwright of St. Croix Falls and Minneapolis, who died in 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Greenfield worship at the Episcopal church. Mr. Brady, the former husband, was a communicant of the Catholic church and voted the Democratic ticket.

**David Imrie** was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, October 1, 1857, a son of James and Agnes (Gowen) Imrie, both natives of Scotland. The parents came to the United States in 1853, settling in Wisconsin. The father worked on a farm one year and then took a course at Carl college at Waukesha. After this he took up teaching, which he afterward followed with great success. He taught ten years in Waukesha county, being also superintendent of schools for several terms. He then moved to Buffalo county, Wisconsin, where he taught school for two terms. He was superintendent of schools in that county for four years and also engaged in farming. In 1893 he retired and now resides with his son David. He had one other son, John, of whom a sketch will be found in this history. David was educated in the public schools and taught school one year. In 1878, October 5,

he married Hulda Southard, a daughter of J. W. and Mary Southard, early settlers of Buffalo county, having come westward in 1856. The father was a millwright by trade, but a farmer by occupation. He now resides in the state of Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Imrie have four children: John, Mabel, Elton and Hattie. Mabel is a graduate of the high school at Roberts, Wis. Mr. Imrie now owns 320 acres in Warren township, all under cultivation. He does general farming, paying considerable attention to dairying. He also breeds Poland China hogs and the place carries from 20 to 30 head of horses and colts. Mr. Imrie built the present house and remodeled the rest of the building, until he now has as fine a place as can be found in the township. He takes pride in the appearance of the farm, and everything about the place shows the most careful and painstaking attention. Mr. Imrie is a Democrat in politics, and when in Buffalo county was clerk, chairman and treasurer of his township. Mr. Imrie is an up to date, hard working man, an ardent friend of the cause of education. He is a wide reader and keeps well abreast of the times.

**John D. Imrie** was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, July 22, 1859, a son of James and Anges (Gowen) Imrie, of whom a sketch will be found in this history. He was educated in the public schools of Buffalo county, Wisconsin, and farmed until 1877, when he engaged in a general store business in Mishamokwa, Wis., for four year. He then went to Milbank, S. D., where he and his brother David continued in the mercantile business one year. He then returned to Buffalo county and farmed from 1881 until 1900, when he came to St. Croix county and bought his present farm in Warren township. Upon this farm of 160 acres, all under the plow, he carries on general farming, doing considerable dairying. He keeps some fine Jersey cows and his barn is especially arranged for dairy purposes. He also raises Poland China hogs and carries several head of Percheron grade horses. Mr. Imrie himself erected all the buildings on the place and has taken pride in keeping them in their present fine condition.

Mr. Imrie was married in 1880 to Hattie Jones, daughter of J. V. and Mary (Kezar) Jones, of Pennsylvania, who came to the St. Croix county several years ago. This union has been blessed with four children: Agnes, Roy, James and Mary. Agnes is married to D. W. Ash, son of W. H. Ash, a banker of Roberts. The other three are at home.

Mr. Imrie votes the Democratic ticket and served as town clerk two years. He is a Good Templar and a member of the Congregational church. The confidence that he enjoys in the community is shown by the fact that he is at present manager of the Farmers' Coöperative creamery. He is one of the successful

farmers of the township, and well deserves all the good reputation that he has throughout the valley.

**Patrick Maloney** is a native of Ireland, born in the '40s. He came to the United States in the early days and located first on Long Island, N. Y., with his parents. The father was a gardener, and after living for a time in the place where he first settled he moved to Hartford, Conn., afterward taking up his home in Hudson, Wis. He arrived in that place some time before the Civil War, and continued to live there until his death. The mother passed away at the home of her son, Patrick. There were five children in the family, two of whom are now alive. Patrick received but a limited education, but he makes up in good, sound business sense what he lacks in book learning. He worked on the farm with his father and then took up work for himself. He now owns 600 acres in Warren township, upon which he carries on general farming. Mr. Maloney was married in 1894 to Nellie Murphy, daughter of Patrick and Rosanna (Kelley) Murphy, who came to this country after the war and followed farming all their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Maloney are the parents of two children, William and Daniel F. Mr. Maloney attends the Catholic church at New Richmond, Wis.

**Robert McIlroy,** son of John and Elizabeth (Kennedy) McIlroy, was born in Ireland, June 14, 1818, of Scotch parentage. He moved to Glasgow, Scotland, in 1831, serving five years' apprenticeship in the provision and grocery trade from 1834 to 1839. From 1839 to 1847 he was in business, coming to America April 29, 1847. He began his manufacturing career in North Andover, Mass., in that year, and later became superintendent of the Norway Plains Company, of Rochester, N. H. He spent the year 1853 in Hyde Park, Mass., building and purchasing machines and starting the manufacture of woolen mills. Returning to Rochester, N. H., in 1854 he resumed charge of the Norway Plains woolen mills and soon added the Waumbeek woolen mills at Milton, N. H., and later the Winthrop woolen mills in Maine. He continued in this business until he moved to his present location in Warren township in the '70s conducting general farming operations and stock raising until he was too old for active work. Although now over ninety years of age, he is still secretary of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company and writes insurance for that organization. This activity at his advanced age, while unusual, when looked at from an ordinary standpoint, is not uncommon in his family, his father having lived to be over ninety-nine and his grandfather over 100 years old. Mr. McIlroy now owns 160 acres of well improved land about one mile from the village of Roberts, and also some fine property in Duluth, Minn. He was married in 1840 to Frances Castle-Franc Burges, who died

in the East, leaving two children: Mary Ann and Elizabeth. For his second wife he married Sarah Brierley, daughter of Edmond S. Brierley, of English descent. Ten children have blessed this union: John R., Edmond S., William H., Frank T., James C., Josiah N., Titus (deceased), Frances, Alice and Louise. Mr. McIlroy is a Republican in politics, a Mason and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Although far beyond the usual span of man's existence, he is well informed and in the possession of his faculties, having an acuteness of judgment that might well be envied by many men still in the prime of life.

**Andrew J. Walker** was born in La Crosse county, Wisconsin, June 14, 1863, a son of Silas Walker, a native of Pennsylvania, who followed farming all his life. Andrew was educated in the public schools and then finished with a course in the Galesville university, thus obtaining the foundation of a fine schooling that has since been broadened by much reading and close observation. He started farming, residing for some years in Buffalo county, Wisconsin, and in 1901 came to St. Croix county, where he bought a large farm in Warren township. He now owns 400 acres and carries on general mixed farming, raising the usual crops. He employs several men, and all his agricultural business is done on a large scale. All of the land is under the plow. Mr. Walker also owns a fine Percheron stallion and breeds that kind of horses to some extent. While the farm was an improved one when he purchased it, Mr. Walker has made many more improvements and has brought the farm to a first class condition in every respect. Mr. Walker was married in 1891 to Anna Syforth, daughter of Fred Syforth, of Sheboygan county, Wisconsin. Six children have blessed this union: Mona, Mabel, Mary, Vera, James and David. Mr. Walker leans toward the Democratic ticket in national affairs, but he is largely an independent thinker, giving his ballot and influence to the best man. He has served as chairman of Warren township and also of Modena township, Buffalo county. He is a public spirited man. Mr. Walker belongs to the Masons, the Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is one of the leading men of his township, a good citizen in every respect.

## ROBERTS VILLAGE.

Roberts village is the trading center of Warren township. It is a village of pretty residences and progessive people. Platted January 4, 1875, the village has held her own and gives evidence of future growth and continued prosperity. There are churches, stores, mills, shops and an elevator within the village limits, and being the center, as it is of an excellent farming district, its

trade is important. It has railroad and telephone service and many other improvements.

**A. H. Aldridge** is one of the leading business men of Roberts, the business of which he has charge being one of the principal industries of the village. His career has been one of active participation in the grain business since early youth. He was born in Milwaukee, Wis., October 9, 1861, a son of Stephen Aldridge. His father and mother died in Milwaukee. He received a good education and then took up the grain business, thoroughly mastering every detail. In 1882 he came to Roberts and started buying grain, an occupation for which his wide knowledge of grain conditions and markets makes him eminently fitted and suited.

At the present time he is secretary of the Wisconsin Elevator Company, which consists of three men, owning ten elevators and handling over 1,000,000 bushels of grain annually. Mr. Aldridge is one of the stockholders. He owns a handsome town residence and also 160 acres of land in the township. He is an up-to-date man, and his combined city and country training has made him a man whom it is well worth while meeting. Everything that he possesses he has made by his own hard labor and business sagacity. In 1887 he was married to Laura Lamson, daughter of David Lamson, of whom a sketch will be found in this history. Three children have blessed this union: Stephen is a graduate of the high school at Hudson, Wis., while Lucile and Alice are at home. Mr. Aldridge votes the Democratic ticket and for many years served as town treasurer. He is a good citizen, well liked by all.

**William H. Ash** is a native of Fond du Lac, Wis., born in April, 1852, son of W. D. Ash, a stock buyer, grain dealer and merchant, who settled in that county in the early days.

William H. received a common school education and then took a course in the high school. He worked at farming and clerked in his father's store until 1902, when he came to St. Croix county and bought the farm of 180 acres in Warren township, which his son Leland now manages. Shortly afterward he bought an interest in the State bank, of Roberts, and became its cashier, in which position he has since remained. Mr. Ash was married in 1872 to Martha Hales, of his own native county. This union has resulted in four children: Leland, on the farm; Frank, assistant cashier of the bank; Bert, bookkeeper in the bank, and William E. Ash. Mr. Ash votes the Democratic ticket and affiliates with the I. O. O. F. He is a public spirited and successful citizen and is regarded as an authority on financial matters. The bank of Roberts is an excellent institution. Its report, May 14, 1908, was as follows: Resources—Loans and discounts, $40,418.46; overdrafts, $242.62; banking house, $1,064.17; furniture and fixtures,

$1,561.52; due from banks, $2,374.45; checks on other banks and cash items, $606.85; cash on hand, $1,323.73; total, $47,691.79. Liabilities—Capital stock paid in, $5,000; undivided profits, $606.11; individual deposits, subject to check, $17,572.70; time certificates on deposit, $24,512.02; savings deposits, .96; total, $47,691.79.

**L. O. Foster** is a native of Moretown, Washington county, Vt., born March 27, 1841, a son of Leonard R. and Jane B. (Johnson) Foster, who were Vermont farmers, living and dying in the Green Mountain state. L. O. was educated in the common schools and worked with his father. He farmed in his native state until 1864, when he came westward and located in Warren, Wis., working on a farm for his brother-in-law, William L. Clapp, one year. He then purchased a farm of 200 acres in Warren township, about two and a half miles out of the village of Roberts. This was seven years prior to the putting through of the railroad. Upon this farm Mr. Foster resided for thirty-six years. He brought it to a high stage of cultivation and did a general farming business. He also did an extensive dairy business, owning thirty-three cows at one time. He owned Holsteins, Jerseys and shorthorn cattle, but found that the greatest general satisfaction was given by the Holsteins. During those years Mr. Foster sometimes made as high as 8,000 pounds of butter yearly and a great amount of cheese. He also bred some fine Yorkshire hogs. Mr. Foster was married in January, 1864, to Lucy B. Haskins, a daughter of Wright and Chastina (Spaulding) Haskins. They were old settlers who came here in 1865. Mrs. Foster comes of old Vermont stock; her grandparents came here from Vermont in 1865, and died in Polk county, Wisconsin. This union has been blessed with one child, Elon R., who now runs the home farm. He is married to Jane Wilson. In 1901 Mr. Foster gave over the management of the farm to this son, and moved to the village of Roberts, where he purchased a house and an acre of land. He still continues active work and has a fine garden, of which he has reason to be proud. He still owns 120 acres of his farm, having given eighty acres to his son. Mr. Foster is a Republican in politics, but has always voted for the best man in county affairs, irrespective of party affiliations. He has always taken a deep interest in public affairs. He assisted in building the church at Roberts and gave liberally to have a station located at Roberts. He has been most successful as the result of his own hard work. For many years he labored from sunrise to late at night, taking little rest. He has served with much credit on the side board for eleven years, being chairman for a short time. Mr. Foster is a Methodist, but attends the Congregational church, there being no sanctuary of his denomination in that village. His

son, Elon R., is a sagacious and progressive man, a worthy son of a noble sire.

**Moses Goodnoe** was born in Vestal, Bloom county, N. Y., November 30, 1835, son of Luther and Martha (Swartwood) Goodnoe, and grandson of Luther Goodnoe, a native of France, who settled in New York state prior to the Revolution, in which war he took part. On his mother's side Mr. Goodnoe is of German descent. The grandfather, Luther, was a farmer and miller and lived and died in Bloom county, New York, as did his son, also named Luther. Moses received a common school education in his native county and as a young man took up lumbering, an occupation which he still continued to follow after coming westward and locating at Stillwater, Minn. In 1861 he located in Roberts and purchased 160 acres of land, taking up farming as an occupation. He enlisted August 11, 1862 in Company A, Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. The company engaged in skirmishes with the Indians and assisted in building Fort Sully, S. Dak., and Fort Rice, N. Dak. He took part in the battle of Nashville and was discharged September 20, 1865, at Louisville, Ky. At the close of the hositlities he returned home and for a period of eleven years was employed by Andrew Baldwin, who with John Humbird, constructed the first railroad in this locality. In 1876 he once more took up farming, continuing same until he retired in 1907. His farm consists of 160 acres of well cultivated land, well improved and equipped with all the latest styles of modern farm machinery and implements. The subject of this sketch was a brave and valiant soldier and has many interesting stories to tell of his war experiences. He is a thorough reader, and his advice is often sought on many important questions. He is a successful farmer and a good citizen, now enjoying a well-deserved rest, after years of hard toil and self denial. He is a Republican in politics, a member of the school board and the board of supervisors, a communicant of the Methodist church and a comrade of the G. A. R. Mr. Goodnoe was married November 18, 1875, to Caroline Feagins, daughter of George and Mary (Stockley) Feagins, natives of England, who settled in Schoharie county, New York, at an early date, the father being a grist miller. In 1858 he located at Belvidere, Ill., where he ended his days. Mr. and Mrs. Goodnoe had four children, as follows: Minnie married James Turner, a farmer of Roberts; Fred married Edith White; William married Agnes Strait, and had one daughter, Gladys Irene; Harry is employed in the oil fields of Illinois.

**William Graham** was born in Montgomery, Orange county, N. Y., in 1863, a son of Gardiner S. and Anna Williams Graham. The family came to St. Croix county in the early days and settled

in Roberts when the village contained but three houses. The father established one of the first general stores in the town of Warren, but later sold out and went to farming. He is still living at Roberts. William received a good general education in the common schools and had one year's work in Carleton college, Northfield, Minn. After leaving school he worked for a time with his father on the farm, but soon entered the employment of James H. Bowne, who conducted a general store at Roberts. This was the beginning of Mr. Graham's business career and he has continued in this line of work ever since. He remained with Mr. Bowne until the latter retired from business to take up farming, and in 1886 he established his present business in connection with the postoffice, having been appointed postmaster by President Cleveland. He deals in general merchandising, and makes a specialty of crockery, hardware, hard and soft coal, clothing, boots and shoes. In 1903 the rapidly increasing business warranted the erection of a large brick building, which the store now occupies. Mr. Graham is an acute business man, and has managed his store in a way to make it profitable to himself and satisfactory to a rapidly increasing number of customers. Mr. Graham is known as a business man of the greatest integrity and honor, and is held in high esteem and respect by all who know him. He has never aspired to public office, preferring to do his work is a quiet unostentatious way. He very acceptably filled the position of postmaster for two terms, 1886-1890 and 1893-1897, and since 1898 he has been clerk of the school board in the village of Roberts. This position he has filled with great credit and largely through his efforts the village school has been enlarged and improved until now it is one of the best of its kind in the county. He is not married, and makes his home with his father. He is a member of the I. O. O. F.

**F. C. Templeman** is a native of Germany, born June 17, 1855, a son of Frederick and Minnie (Bublitz) Templeman, who came to the United States in 1855 and located at Milwaukee, where the father worked nine years in a distillery, being foreman five years, after which he began farming in Columbia county, Wisconsin. The father died in 1893 and the mother in 1892. F. C. was educated in the public schools and worked at farming until he went into the insurance business, being engaged with the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company of Arlington, Wis. He made a great success of this business, continuing for five years. He was one of the directors of the company. During his residence in Columbia county he was town treasurer, school district clerk nine years and member of the town board, and president of the Greenwood Cemetery Association in Leeds for four years. In 1899 he came to Warren township and purchased 400 acres of land. He sold

and purchased several other farms in succession and now owns a large farm, consisting of 280 acres, in this township. The place is north of Roberts and is known as the "Pleasant View Stock Farm." Upon this farm he buys, raises and sells driving and Percheron horses. For three years he owned a fine Percheron stallion, but he has now disposed of him. October 1 he left the farm and retired to his fine house in Roberts village, leaving his son, Ben, in charge of the farm. In 1880 Mr. Templeman was married to Dora Schlichtman, daughter of Peter and Catherine (Borway) Schlichtman, natives of Germany. Her parents lived for a time at Arlington, Wis., but now reside at Blue Hill, Neb. Mr. and Mrs. Templeman have five children: Benjamin F., Janette, Arthur, Clara and Minnie. Janette married Thomas Tobin and lives at Blue Hill, Neb. Mr. Templeman is a great believer in education and has given his children the advantages of considerable schooling. He and his sons vote the Democratic ticket. The sons are members of the I. O. O. F. Mr. Templeman is a worthy example of the type of men who have gained success by their own efforts. He is a believer and worker in every good cause that tends for the betterment of the community.

**J. A. Vincent** was born in Nova Scotia, May 24, 1853, a son of George and Sarah (Morrison) Vincent. The father was born on shipboard between Scotland and Nova Scotia and is still residing on the old homestead in the latter place. J. A. received a good common school education and engaged in the lumber woods, shipbuilding and farming in the summer time. At the age of eighteen he went to Pennsylvania, where he remained several years and worked in the lumber woods. From there he went to Chippewa Falls, Wis.; he worked in the woods three years and then tried his fortunes in North Dakota two years. Subsequently he spent five years farming in the St. Croix valley. At the conclusion of this period in 1885 he started in the mercantile business at Roberts. The store which he occupied for two years was opposite the one which he now owns. For the following five years he rented another store and in 1893 built the edifice which his store occupies at present. At one time he remained the only merchant in Roberts for many years, and even at present there is but one other beside himself. In 1881 he was married to Helen Richardson, of Berlin, Wis. Her mother now makes her home with her, and her father passed away at her home some years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Vincent have one child, Clara, who lives at home. She is a musician of more than usual ability, having received private instruction in St. Paul, Minn. At present she is engaged in giving music lessons herself. Mr. Vincent is a Republican in politics. He has filled the position of postmaster of Roberts for twelve years with much credit to himself and great sat-

isfaction to his patrons. He belongs to the Masonic order and to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has been successful in all his undertakings, and in all his career has never been guilty of a dishonest or dishonorable act.

## CHAPTER XLVII.

## POLK COUNTY.

**Its Early History Identical With That of the Valley—Incoming of the Whites—Early Realization of the Value of St. Croix Falls—First Steamboat on the St. Croix Waters—Reminiscenses by Early Settlers—Death of Little Crow's Sons—Trouble With Indians—Frontier Justice in Early Days—First Tow of Logs.**

The early history of Polk county is identical with the early history of St. Croix and Washington counties. Originally a part of Crawford county, Michigan, it became a part of Crawford county, Wisconsin, and then in 1840 a part of St. Croix county, Wisconsin. In 1853 it was set off from St. Croix county and received its present organization and name, the latter in honor of James K. Polk, the eleventh President of the United States. At that date it included a part of what are now Barron, Chippewa and Ashland counties and all of the present Polk, Bayfield and Douglas counties. The first white men that visited this region were Daniel Graysolon Du Lhut, or Du Luth, with five French Canadians, who as early as 1681 engaged in trading with the Indians. The same year Father Louis Hennepin visited this locality. A map of this portion of the country, made by Jonathan Carver in 1766, gives the present name, St. Croix, to the valley and river, the territory covered by the map being an area from twenty to ninety miles in width and about 120 miles in length. This county was originally occupied by Chippewa Indians. By a treaty which was made at Fort Snelling, July 29, 1837, between the United States, by their commissioner, Henry Dodge, then governor of the territory of Wisconsin, and the Chippewas, the latter ceded to the United States the upper valley of the St. Croix. The remainder of their lands in this region was ceded to the general government in 1842, and since that time no organized bands of Indians have made a permanent settlement in the county.

The first permanent settlement by whites was made in July, 1837, by Franklin Steele, George W. Fitch, Colonel Stambaugh, Emerson Maginnis and others, who made claims and squatted on land where the village of St. Croix Falls now stands. Of his early days in the county Mr. Steele himself says: "I came to the North-

west in 1837, a young man, healthy and ambitious, to dare the perils of an almost unexplored region, inhabited by savages. I sought Fort Snelling, which was at that time an active United States fort, as a point from which to start. In September, 1837, immediately after the treaty was made ceding the St. Croix valley to the government, accompanied by Dr. Fitch, of Iowa, we started from Fort Snelling in a bark canoe, also a scow loaded with tools, supplies and laborers. We descended the Mississippi river and ascended the St. Croix to the Dalles. We clambored over the rocks to the Falls, where we made two land claims, covering the Falls on the east side and the approach to it in the Dalles. We built a log cabin at the Falls, where the Upper Copper trap range crosses the river and where the old mill was afterward erected. A second log house we built in the ravine at the head of navigation. Whilst building, four other parties arrived to make claim to this power. I found the veritable Joe Brown on the west side of the St. Croix trading with the Indians. Brown also cut pine logs, a part of which in 1838 were used by Baker and Taylor, but most of which were burned by forest fires on the ground where they were felled. In February, 1838, I made a trip with a dog team for the relief of one Boyce, who was cutting logs at the mouth of the Snake river and had gotten into some trouble with the Indians. I helped him until he left the country. Peshick, a chief of the Chippewas, said: 'We have no money for logs, we have no money for land; logs cannot go.' He said he could not control his young men and would not be responsible for their acts. In the spring of 1838 from Fort Snelling we descended the Mississippi river to Prairie du Chien in bark canoes, thence by steamer to St. Louis, Mo., where a copartnership was formed by Messrs. Fitch, of Iowa; Libbey, of Alton, Ill.; Hungerford and Livingston, of St. Louis; Hill and Holcombe, of Quincy, Ill., and myself. We chartered the steamer 'Palmyra,' loaded her with all the materials with which to build a sawmill, including mechanics to do the work, and started for the scene of operation. Plans and rules were discussed on the trip and the new organization was christened the St. Croix Falls Lumbering Company.''

Another authority evidently, in speaking of the same matter, gives the name of the company as the St. Louis Lumbering Company, and declares that it was composed of the following persons: Franklin Steele, Dr. George W. Fitch, W. S. Hungerford, James Livingston, James Libbey, B. F. Titcomb and William Holcombe. This company built a dam and sawmill, stores, shops and dwellings and continued for some time. Calvin A. Tuttle was the millwright in charge of the construction of the mill, and Mr. Libbey was the first agent of the company. It is said that Libbey sold the first whiskey in the valley. The company had an inter-

esting history and passed through many changes of name and ownership. Its story is one of litigations and feuds, of mistakes and blunders and wrongs, these difficulties having kept the settlements on both banks of the Falls small villages instead of the magnificent cities that with their advantages they should be today. The men who started the company had little experience in the undertaking which they started, and the venture ended in miserable failure instead of in the glorious success that the location and advantages should have assured. In 1847 another company was formed, consisting of James Purinton, of Maine, and Caleb Cushing, with a capital of $60,000, who obtained possession of the property and made many improvements. The story of these early days is best told by those who participated in them, and therefore some reminiscences of Calvin A. Tuttle, already mentioned above, as the first millwright in the county will not be amiss. Mr. Tuttle says: "In July, 1838, the steamer 'Palmyra,' Captain Middleton, of Hannibal, Mo., in command, the first steamer on St. Croix waters, brought me to St. Croix Falls, landing in the Dalles, east side, opposite Angle Rock. The snorting of the 'Palmyra' brought many red curiosity seekers to the Dalles. They gathered on the pinnacles of the trap rock, peered curiously over and jumped back, trembling with fright at the 'Scota Cheman,' or 'fire canoe,' the first that had ever floated on the placid waters of the St. Croix. I had been employed as millwright to erect mills in the new and as yet almost unknown settlement. On the 'Palmyra' came the proprietors, Steele, Fitch, Hungerford, Libbey, Livingston, Hill and Russell, with mill irons, tools and provisions for the enterprise. After climbing over the cragged banks we came to an Indian trail, which led to the Falls, where we found two men, Lagoo and Denire, holding the claim for Steele. The fanciful scheme of building a mill upon the wild land looked now like a reality. The men lived in a log cabin just below the Falls in a small clearing in the timber near a copper rock range. Boyce and his men had been driven in by Indians from above. Andrew Mackey and others of Boyce's men went to work with us. Thirty-six men had come from St. Louis on the steamer 'Palmyra.' We moved our machinery from the Dalles to the Falls by water and commenced work immediately. Steele's men had been hindered by the Indians from procuring timber for the building of the mill. We obtained a supply from Kanabec river, which arrived September 15. Building the mill and blasting the rock occupied our attention through the winter. The mill was soon completed and running. During this period the work was often interrupted and the men were greatly demoralized by the threatening behavior of the Indians. Many of them were frightened into leaving the settlement. But their places were

supplied by the company whenever practicable. During 1840 we received some reliable accessions, among them J. L. Taylor, John McKusick, Joseph Haskell, Elam Greeley, J. W. Furber and A. McHattie. Some frame houses were built near the mill. Washington Libbey was our first agent, Darnes our second in 1839, Capt. W. Frazer our third in 1840, Capt. William Holcombe our fourth in 1841. The first white woman who visited the Falls was Mrs. David Hone. Anson Northup came here in 1840 with his family.

"In 1840 Jeremiah Russell, the Indian farmer at Pokegama, Pine county, Minn., sent two Chippewa Indians to St. Croix Falls for supplies, who arrived in safety. A band of fifty Sioux Indians were concealed at St. Croix Falls settlement for some days. Within an hour after the arrival of the two Chippewas the settlement was surrounded by the Sioux. The whites, seeing that trouble was brewing, secreted the Chippewas for two days, the Sioux closely watching. The white men were restless and afraid to go to work. Captain Frazer, the Rev. Ayres and myself held a council and explained the situation to the Chippewas, who replied that they would not expose the whites to trouble. They resolved on leaving and started in open day north over the trap rock ridge, thence through the bushes, where they discovered two Sioux. The Chippewas were armed and fired on the Sioux, killing them instantly. The Chippewas then started to run. The report of the guns brought squads of Sioux immediately in pursuit, who, firing on the Chippewas, killed one. The two dead Sioux were sons of Little Crow. They were placed by the Sioux in a sitting posture with backs to a tree facing the enemy's country, on the second bench where the milldam was subsequently built, a double-barreled gun standing on the ground between them. They decorated the two corpses with war paint, ribbons and mosses. The two Chippewas who killed Little Crow's sons bore the titles Julius and Wezhaymah. The Sioux in pursuit killed Julius and his head was hung up in a kettle before those he had slain. His body was chopped in pieces and scattered to the four winds."

Mrs. E. T. Ayer wrote the following description of the deaths of the sons of Little Crow many years after the event occurred: "Julius was of medium height, stout built, very neat, and when in full dress very few Indians would favorably compare with him. Being a good hunter, he had the means of gratifying his tastes. His hair was long and abundant and was kept clean and shining by the frequent use of comb and brush, with the help of a little marrow or bear's oil. Three or four of his numerous long braids, studded with silver brooches, hung gracefully on both sides of his face and over his arms, the rest of his dress in a manner cor-

responding. His hair, like Absalom's, did not save him from his enemies. The Dakotas may dance around it for generations and never see its equal. Wezhaymah made his appearance at Pokegama. As he drew near the houses he gave a salute from his double-barreled gun. The Ojibways were much frightened. They believed the Sioux had returned to make another trial for scalps and plunder. The first impulse of the women was to hide. The chief's wife and oldest daughter, being at the mission house, went through a trapdoor into a dark cellar, but when the supposed dead stood before them alive and well there was great rejoicing. Wezhayma said that Julius killed both of Little Crow's sons and that the Sioux followed him but a short distance, then all turned after Julius. He took a circuitous route home, traveling in the night and hiding in the day. Julius' parents, Joseph and Eunice, and other members of their family were members of the mission church. He and his wife made no profession, though they sometimes attended religious service.

"About twenty days after about 100 Sioux came from Little Crow's band at Red Rock after the bodies of Little Crow's sons and the gun which they had left between them, the band having first by means of spies satisfied themselves that there were no Chippewas in the vicinity. One morning as the whites were going to work they were surprised by the sudden appearance of these Indians, who rushed suddenly down upon them from different trails, gorgeously painted and without blankets. Their movements were so sudden that the whites were completely surprised and at the mercy of the Indians, who, however, satisfied themselves by searching the camp and appropriating all the victuals they could find, pretending to be searching for the gun which was not to be found where they had left it. Complaining bitterly of its loss, they withdrew to the trap rock ledge near by, where they formed a circle, danced, sung and fired several guns into the air. They then asked to see 'Ogema,' the agent, and formally demanded the gun. Everyone in camp denied any knowledge whatever of the missing article. The Indians were at first much dissatisfied, but finally Little Crow advanced, smoked a pipe, and offered it to Captain Frazer, shook hands and withdrew, apparently, in peace. As it is not the custom for Indians to molest the dead, they firmly believed that the white men had taken the gun. Little Crow applied to Major Plympton at Fort Snelling, charging the theft upon the whites. The major in turn wrote to Captain Frazer at the Falls to make an investigation, as the result of which the gun was found in a tool chest belonging to Louis Barlow, concealed under a false bottom. Barlow professed entire innocence and ignorance of the matter, suggesting that his brother must have placed the gun there. Cap-

tain Frazer severely reprimanded him for imperiling the lives of all the whites in the settlement by his foolish and thievish act. The gun was sent to Major Plympton, who wrote to Captain Frazer cautioning him to be on his guard, as the Indians were much irritated. Barlow had earned the contempt and dislike of his fellow workmen.

"Of those whose names appear on the roll of early settlers who came between 1844 and 1848 are the following: William Kent, H. N. Setzer, Smith Ellison, J. L. Taylor, Daniel Mears, John Mower, William Nobles, Martin Mower, W. J. Vincent, Harvey Walker, W. Mahoney, Mr. Perkins, Joseph and W. R. Marshall, P. Jewell, J. Weymouth, W. S. Hungerford, Joseph Bowron, H. Schultz, Anson Northup, Robert Kent and others. Of this number we find that William Kent erected a sawmill at what is now Osceola in 1844, and he and his brothers were afterward the founders of Osceola Mills, now known as Osceola. In the spring of 1848 there were two rival whiskey sellers at or near Balsam lake. Miles Tornell, a Norwegian, was located midway between the lake and the Falls. Miller, a German, had his post at the lake. A bitter feeling sprang up between them, which resulted, as the testimony showed, in the murder of Tornell. His house was burned and his body found concealed in a coal pit. One McLaughlin, who was stopping with Tornell, was also murdered. An investigation was started. Samuels and Fields acted as detectives and fixed the crime upon an Indian, whom they arrested on an island in Blake's lake and brought to the Falls for trial. H. H. Perkins acted as judge. A jury was impaneled and a trial was held in the store of Daniel Mears. The Indian confessed to the killing and said that he had been hired to commit the crime by Miller. After brief remarks by the lawyers the jury brought in a verdict of guilty. There was no formal sentence. The Indian was kept under guard till next morning, when, by the unanimous consent of all present, he was hanged to a tree, Samuels officiating as sheriff. Toward Miller, who ought to have been held as principal, the crowd were lenient. Instead of being hanged on the same tree, he was lashed to it and flogged, 'Pat' Collins administering fifteen strokes on the bare back with a beech withe. He was then placed on a steamboat and ordered to leave the country, never to return. This 'Pat' Collins was a bad citizen. He had a bitter grudge against Miller and laid on the blows hard and heavy. He was himself hanged some years later in California for highway robbery. Charles F. Rowley, who assisted at the hanging, lived for some years on a farm at Wolf Creek, enlisted in 1861 and was killed in battle."

The following article by J. W. Mullen entitled "The First Tow of Logs Taken Out of Lake St. Croix by the Steamboat 'War Eagle,'" in the season of 1847, may prove of interest to many of the older residents. It was written in 1877, thirty years after the occurrence of the events narrated: "After a trip of some six days from St. Louis the fine steamer 'War Eagle,' Captain Smith Harris in command, could be seen entering Lake St. Croix late one evening in August, 1847. The waters on the lake were calm. The high bluffs were a glorious sight to watch until hid by the darkness. Early next morning the 'War Eagle' was laying at the small town of Stillwater, then the only business point in the territory now called Minnesota. This point at that time denoted a stir of business. Men with red shirts could be seen along the banks handling logs with their poles, getting them together for gathering into rafts, whilst the saloons and few stores were busy engaged in attending to their customers. Towing in those days was unknown and the rafts were gotten through the lake by very slow progress. When the 'War Eagle' arrived there were a number of rafts ready at Stillwater and the steamer was chartered at $50 an hour to tow the fleet through Lake St. Croix. By evening she was surrounded by ten rafts of logs moving down the lake. Next morning the steamer struck the Mississippi, where she left her fleet and steamed down the river to St. Louis."

## CHAPTER XLVIII.

### EVENTS SINCE 1860.

**Influx of Population—Some Early Beginnings—Polk County in Modern Times—Its Rich Acres—Crops and Live Stock—Value of Land—Creameries and Cheese Factories—Railroads and Natural Advantages—Polk County Coöperative Company—Polk County Training School for Teachers.**

Settlers came in slowly until 1866, when the influx of population began to set in at this point. The first hotel was built by the St. Louis Lumber Company, known as the Planters' House. The first grist mill was built in 1848. Another authority gives this as 1853. This was built by the Kent brothers at Osceola. The first store, the first frame house, the first blacksmith shop were built by the lumber company at St. Croix Falls. The second hotel was built by the Cushing Lumber Company at the Falls. The first bridge built across the St. Croix river was in 1856, located between St. Croix Falls, Wis., and Taylors Falls, Minn. The first court was held in the school house, Wyman Knowlton presiding. Isaac Freeland was the first attorney admitted to practice. Isaac W. Hale was the first county judge. The first birth in the county was that of Charles, son of Anson Northup, at St. Croix Falls in 1844. The first death was that of John Kelley by drowning in 1839. The first deed of Polk county property is recorded at Prairie du Chien, September 2, 1845, from James Purinton to John Wetherall, of St. Louis, for $4,933, a deed of a sawmill at St. Croix Falls. The first crops were raised at "Jerusalem," the first farm in the county, in 1839. The first pre-emption and entry of land was made in 1848 by Harmon Crandall. The first mail route was opened by Dr. Philip Aldrich in 1840 from Stillwater to St. Croix Falls and the mail transported in a bateau on the river in the summer and on the ice in the winter once a week. The doctor also established an overland mail route in 1847 from what was then Willow River to St. Croix Falls. This was carried weekly on foot until 1855, when he established a regular stage line. The first marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. Boutwell for Louis Barlow. Mrs. Tainter taught the first school at St. Croix Falls in 1848. The first school built in Osceola was in 1845 by William A. Talboys. The first

school house built in Osceola was in 1854, although another authority gives it as two years earlier. The first built in St. Croix Falls was in 1861. Rev. Mr. Boutwell, a Congregational missionary, located at Pokegama, held the first religious services at St. Croix Falls. The Methodists, represented by the Rev. Mr. Eddyvin in 1852, organized the first religious society in Osceola. During the ministry of the Rev. S. T. Catlin the Baptist Society built their first church at Osceola Mills. In all new settlements after the school and the church comes the newspaper. The first to establish a newspaper at St. Croix Falls was Messrs. Reymert and Bartlett in December, 1860, at which date they commenced the publication of the "St. Croixian." One year later it assumed the title of the "Polk County Press," and was removed to Osceola by S. S. Fifield in 1861, he having purchased the paper. Charles E. Mears afterward became its publisher. The first physician was Dr. Carli. The early settlers of the then wild and remote district had many trials to endure. Selfishness was often predominant in the matter of location of land. The poor were overridden by the rich. An instance of this kind occurred in the town of Farmington. A valuable piece of land had been pre-empted by several settlers who had failed in making their final entry at the proper time. One Ovid Pinney, a wealthy speculator, taking advantage of this circumstance, entered the lands from them. This act so enraged the settlers that they resolved to deal out to the old man a punishment that would be severe enough to discourage others in similar attempts. They held a council and decided to drown him. But upon cooler consideration they allowed the old man to depart.

Many acts of lawlessness were committed during those early times. Murders were quite frequent, both with whites and Indians. So frequently were these acts committed that a well-organized vigilance committee was established by the citizens. Osceola and St. Croix Falls became points of some size in 1845. A tract of land platted and laid off into village lots by M. P. Chandler for St. Croix Falls in 1845, and by F. G. Murray, April 26, 1855, for Osceola Mills. Polk county has the honor of building the first steamboat in the St. Croix valley, which was built in Osceola by Holmes and Cummings in the winter of 1855. The first territorial election was held in St. Croix Falls in 1844, and the first general election was held in November, 1853. The county was at that time divided into two voting precincts, Le Roy and St. Croix Falls. The county seat was located then at the latter place. At the general election 64 votes were cast and the following officers were elected: Isaac Freeland, clerk of the county; E. C. Treadwell, sheriff; O. A. Clark, surveyor; W. A. Talboys, register of deeds; William Kent, treasurer; Harmon

Crandall, coroner; Nelson McCarty, district attorney; Robert Kent, clerk of the court. The first meeting of the board of supervisors was held at the house of F. W. Abbott in Osceola. At the same house the county offices were located for several years. At the fall election of 1853 a vote was taken to remove the county seat to Osceola, resulting in 44 for and none against the removal. The records were consequently removed to Osceola. The subject was still agitated and again voted on in the fall of 1854, which resulted in the records remaining in Osceola. At a comparatively recent date the county seat has been moved to Balsam Lake. James Livingstone has the honor of giving the name "Osceola" to the village in honor of the Seminole Indian chief of Florida.

The records of Polk county from organization to 1863 were destroyed. The following is the affidavit of C. H. Staples, then clerk of the board of supervisors: "C. H. Staples, clerk of the board of supervisors of Polk county, being duly sworn, deposes and says that between the 19th and 24th of April, 1863, the buildings occupied by the county offices for said county were entered by some person or persons and there was taken from them the records of the county, containing all the proceedings of the county board of supervisors, since the organization of the county, also a copy of the tax sales of the said county, and said book has not to this day been returned. Sworn and subscribed before me this 18th day of May, 1863. W. M. Blanding, county judge."

The first town organization was that of Le Roy in 1853, which at that time included the whole of Polk county. The next organization was that of Alden, as the books were destroyed the dates do not appear.

The valuation of property in Polk county in 1863 in the then six towns and two villages, of which the county was composed, was as follows: In the town of Alden there were 30,843.46 acres under cultivation, valued at $55,789.48; personal property, $2,004. Farmington, 27,171.87, acres, valued at $48,047.34, with personal property, $2,311. Lincoln, 14,305.20 acres, valued at $30,514.99; personal property, $490. Osceola, 26,276.78 acres, valued at $61,266, with village lots valued at $9,820, and personal property, $11,610. St. Croix Falls, 93,781.54 acres, valued at $175,107, with village lots valued at $16,101; personal property, $8,569. Sterling, 49,095.75 acres, valued at $87,235; personal property, $1,886; total acres, 241,361.73; value, $457,254.81; total value village lots, $25,921; personal property, $26,870.

The same year Burnett was added to the county for judicial purposes.

The war record of Polk county was one of which they may justly be proud. The whole number of volunteers that enlisted

from the county was sixty-two, which constituted one-fifth of the whole population of the county. It is doubtful if any other county in the state can produce such a record.

Polk county is located on the east side of the St. Croix river in the most westerly part of Wisconsin, forty miles north of St. Paul and 100 miles directly south of Duluth and Superior. The county is traversed from east to west by the main line of the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie Railway, commonly called the "Soo Line," and the westerly part of the county has a branch of the same railroad running to the northern tier of townships. This line will soon be extended to Duluth and Superior. The eastern portion of the county is traversed by the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railway, running from St. Paul to Duluth, giving quick time to both these great markets.

The general surface of the land is rolling from southwest to northeast, so that the rivers and creeks for the most part flow in a south-westerly direction, emptying into the St. Croix river. There are many lakes, large and small, all having their source in natural springs, forming numerous small streams. The most important of the lakes are Balsam lake, Bone lake, Deer lake, Cedar lake, Sucker lake, Sandy lake, Horse lake, East like, Osceola lake, Butternut lake and many others. Many of the rivers and creeks afford good water power, although all have not yet been used for manufacturing purposes. Good water power is found on the Apple river and its tributaries, and on Clam river. Osceola creek has a beautiful waterfall, both picturesque and useful, being used by the flour mills at Osceola. The lakes and streams abound in all kinds of game fish, especially brook trout. Naturally, with so many springs the water supplies for household and drinking purposes are most excellent and the fame of the mineral springs of the county has been widespread. In the neighborhood of the lakes and along the shores of the rivers and streams are found excellent pasturage and natural hay meadows, but most of the land is covered with forests consisting of maple, basswood, ash, poplar and butternut, together with several kinds of oak, birch and white pine. There are a few places where pine is most prevalent, but in most localities the prevailing timber is hardwood, with but very little pine. Although the land is rolling for the most part, in many places there are acres of considerable size that are quite level. Nearly all the land is capable of cultivation and the remainder, which consists of steep hillsides, is available for pasturage. There are large acres of rich loam and the amount of stony and sandy soil is very small. In some places the loam is mixed with clay, making a very fertile soil. Much of the land, until quite recently, has been covered with timber; and the decay-

ing leaves and vegetation for centuries have been covering the clay soil with a deep layer of mould, producing an ideal soil.

The majority of the population consists of immigrants from Scandinavian countries and their descendants, and next in importance to these come the Americans, German and Irish, although there are many prominent citizens who boast of other nationality.

In 1855 the population of Polk county was 547; in 1865, 1,677; in 1880, 10,018, and in 1900, 17,801. The present population is estimated at over 21,000, showing the wonderful strides that have been made in the matter of population.

The extra fine quality of grasses, coupled with good, pure water, goes generally without argument as constituting the requirements of a good dairying country and all of these, Polk county has in abundance. There are twenty creameries located at Amery, Alden township, Range, Atlas, Bone Lake township, Clam Falls, Richardson, Cushing, Deronda, Dresser Junction, Eureka township, West Sweden, Clear Lake, Ubet, Georgetown township, Luck township, Lykens, Milltown, St. Croix Falls township and Volga. There are eleven cheese factories, located as follows: Alden township (two), Farmington township (four), Garfield township (two), Clayton, St. Croix Falls township and Nye. There are three milk condensing plants, located at Frederic, township of Garfield and township of Alden, the latter plant being located within the limits of Little Falls, in that township.

According to the report of County Clerk Amil Markee, in 1908, there are in the county 7,728 horses, assessed at $494,204.50; 35,181 neat cattle, assessed at $515,068; 29 mules and asses, assessed at $1,895; 13,089 sheep and lambs, assessed at $37,593.50; 5,365 swine, assessed at $28,865; 6,562 wagons, carriages and sleighs, assessed at $89,034; the total assessment of all personal property amounting to $2,752,816.50. There are 579,782.60 acres of real estate, assessed with improvements, at $8,077,301, making a total assessment of all real and personal property to the amount of $10,830,117.50.

The acreage devoted to the various crops in the county, in 1908, is as follows: Wheat, 2,819; corn, 9,508; oats, 49,425; barley, 6,272; rye, 628; flaxseed, 135; potatoes, 2,045; sugar beets 2; other root crops, 20½; cranberries, 8; strawberries, 2½; raspberries, ¾; flax fibre, 1½; cultivated hay, 35,792; growing timber, 31,478. There are also 348 bearing apple trees.

The county has fifty-five churches, 114 schools and a teachers' training school, the latter being at St. Croix Falls. The towns of the county are Alden, Apple River, Balsam Lake, Beaver, Black Brook, Bone Lake, Clam Falls, Clayton, Clear Lake, Eureka, Farmington, Garfield, Georgetown, Johnstown, Laketown, Lin-

coln, Lorain, Luck, McKinley, Milltown, Osceola, St. Croix Falls, Sterling and West Sweden. The villages are Amery, Balsam Lake, Centuria, Clear Lake, Frederic, Luck, Osceola and St. Croix Falls. There are twelve banks in the county, and their combined deposits from farmers alone will amount approximately to $1,200,000. It is equipped with a splendid system of highways, with rural routes and telephones everywhere, and with schools convenient for everyone's children, which insures them the proper educational advantages, and there are also churches of all denominations, and eight newspapers are published within the county.

The Polk County Training school for teachers was authorized by the county board at the annual session of 1904. St. Croix Falls won out in a spirited contest for the location of the school and in consideration thereof erected the building in which the school is now housed upon a site donated by Comer Brothers. The school began its existence in the fall of 1905, in the old town hall, and was moved to the new building in February, 1905. The first training school board consisted of W. C. Reilly, of Osceola; J. C. Saxton, of Clear Lake, and Superintendent C. W. Monty, of St. Croix Falls. The building committee was composed of the training school board: Robert Smith, of Lorain, and M. C. Pedersen, of Luck, all members of the county board. W. F. Lush and Gertrude Earhart, teachers of wide experience, were the first faculty. After two years Professor Lush resigned to take charge of the science work in the State Normal school at Stevens Point, and Miss Earhart gave up her position to continue her studies at Columbia university. Superintendent C. W. Monty and Amanda Johnson, of Rochester, Minn., were chosen by the board as the new faculty. After an existence of three years the school has more than doubled the enrollment of the first year; has added largely to its equipment and has by the work of its graduates justified the faith of those who urged its establishment. The present board consists of Messrs. Saxton, Reilly and Superintendent L. F. Murphy. The board and faculty coöperate in carrying out the purpose of the school, which is to furnish trained teachers for the rural schools of Polk county.

The following article was written for this history by J. R. Lowe, editor and publisher of the "Outlook." The Polk County Coöperative Company was organized January 7, 1905, at Lykens by E. W. Peplinger, who turned over his building and stock of goods to twenty-four farmers. At a meeting held January 14 of the same year it was reported that fifty-two had subscribed for the stock. Each of these had taken an equal share of $100. Mr. Keplinger was made manager on a salary. Forty farmers of Centuria organized in like manner February 9, 1905, bought out N. Johnson and made Gust Anderson manager. Soon afterward

sixty persons organized at Range and made Mr. Ekergren manager. The following year E. J. Schneider turned over his stock and building at Amery, valued at $34,000. These were followed in turn by Little Falls, T. O. Winger, manager; Milltown, J. M. Michaelson, manager; Frederic, G. H. Marsden, manager; Clear Lake, Thomas Stout, manager; St. Croix Falls, C. A. Backstrom, manager; Eureka, Arthur Anderson, manager. In addition to these the hardware store of Frank Handlas, of Centuria, was absorbed by the Centuria department. There are now 600 stockholders in the company, each holding one share. The company is capitalized at $100,000 and has about $90,000 working capital, doing an estimated business of nearly $300,000 a year. It is managed by a board of twelve directors, who meet quarterly. It also has a general manager. It pays 8 per cent on paid-up stock and a dividend on purchases in proportion each gives the stores. From the start, made at Lykens less than four years ago, there are now eighty stores organized around the Twin Cities with a wholesale establishment, organized recently, at Minneapolis. It is copied after the Rochdale plant of England, which has proven an unbounded success. The trade of this line of stores, not over sixty years since the time they were first started, is measured in billions of dollars annually. The profits of the manufacturing, wholesale and retail, all go to the consumer. Half dividends are paid to non-shareholders on their trade and to stores that own no stock, but purchase from the coöperative wholesale house. P. G. Bloomdall is president; Henry Davidson, secretary and treasurer, and E. J. Schneider, general manager.

## CHAPTER XLIX.

## POLK COUNTY.

**Alden Township—Apple River Township—Balsam Lake Township—Balsam Lake Village—Beaver Township—Black Brook Township—Bone Lake Township—Clam Falls Township—Biography—History—Crops, Stock and Agricultural Wealth.**

The town of Alden embraces township 32, range 17 and twenty four sections of range 18. It has both prairie and timber lands, and is well supplied with water. Apple river traverses it from northeast to southwest. There are many small streams, and a large number of small lakes, of which Cedar lake is the largest. The town of Alden was organized in 1857. The first board of supervisors were Stephen Williams, William Folsom and H. Sawyer. The first postoffice was established at Wagon Landing in 1862, V. M. Babcock, postmaster. The first settlers were William Folsom, V. M. Babcock, V. B. Kittel, I. L. Bridgman, Charles Vassau, Jr., and Humphrey Sawyer, in 1856. Mr. Bridgman raised the first crops, in 1857. The first marriage was C. Vassau to Alma Kittel, in 1858, by Rev. A. Burton Peabody. The first white child born in Alden was P. B. Peabody, July 28, 1856. The first death was of a child, Nicholas W. Gordon, June 10, 1857. There are seven schoolhouses in Alden township. The chairman of Alden township is Peter Tollefson; clerk, Sam B. Vassau; treasurer, Andrew Bottolfson; assessor, E. L. Parslow. There are in the township, in 1908, 694 horses, assessed at $39,734; 2,927 neat cattle, assessed at $44,664; 5,767 sheep and lambs, assessed at $17,549; 2 mules and asses, assessed at $25; 576 swine, assessed at $3,541; 37,471.18 acres; assessed with improvements, at $459,477; personal property assessed at $135,482; total assessment, $594,959. The acreage devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908 was as follows: Wheat, 282; corn 1,914; oats, 6,221; barley, 678; rye, 182; flaxseed, 34; potatoes, 99; hay, 4,170; growing timber, 2,780; number of bearing apple trees, 100. The settlements are at Alden village and Wagon Landing.

**Andrew Asp,** a farmer of Alden township, was born in Sweden, September 17, 1852, son of Ole and Britta (Pearson) Asp, natives of Sweden, who came to America in 1867, locating in Alden township and homesteading eighty acres, making all the improvements.

The father passed away in June, 1895, and the mother died in May, 1903. Our subject received his education in Sweden and came to America with his parents at the age of about fifteen years. He attended district school and worked on the farm, and in 1874 purchased 160 acres in Alden township. He broke the land and made all improvements and has continued to carry on dairying and grain raising ever since. In addition to his original farm, he now owns eighty acres more. Mr. Asp was married March 24, 1892, to Josephine Marie Hanson, daughter of Benedict and Christine (Johnson) Hanson, natives of Norway. The father died in Norway in January, 1881, and the mother came to America six years later, now making her home at Ferndale, Wash. To Mr. and Mrs. Asp have been born eight children: Ruth Evangeline, born January 3, 1893; Benedict Kenelm, born February 17, 1894; Obed Zabdiel, born August 6, 1895; Anselm Uriel, born December 1, 1897; Dora Genevieve, born July 23, 1900, and died in January, 1902; Joseph Douglas, born July 27, 1902; Andrew Lloyd, born March 2, 1905, and Mary Della, born September 19, 1907. The family faith is that of the Methodist church, and Mr. Asp votes the Prohibition ticket.

**John G. Aune** is a native of Baldwin, Wis., born March 29, 1877. A sketch of his parents appears with the sketch of Hans Aune, of Baldwin, St. Croix county, Wis. John G. received his education in the common schools of Baldwin, and then engaged in cheese making, butter making and farming, working at Baldwin three years, in Douglas county, Minnesota, one year and then again in Baldwin two years. He took a course in the dairy school at Madison, Wis., and was graduated in 1899, receiving a diploma with honors. He then spent three years at cheese making in Plain Sauk county, Wisconsin., one year at Baldwin, and then, in 1903, came to Deronda, Garfield township, Polk county, Wis., engaging first at cheese making and then entering the creamery business. July 1, 1904, he secured an appointment with the United States government as a mail carrier out of Deronda, which occupation he now follows. He also gives some attention to farming, owning eighty acres in the township of Alden, Wisconsin, where he makes his home. Mr. Aune is a Republican in politics, is a member of the Lutheran church and belongs to the Beavers. He is of a genial disposition, well informed on all the topics of the day, being a great favorite all along his route, as well as with a large circle of personal friends. Mr. Aune was married February 28, 1903, to Anna B. Jensen, born Tellemarken, Norway, ———— 24, 1882, daughter of Chris and Carrie (Nelson) Jensen, natives of Norway, now farmers of Wilson, Springfield township, Wis. Two children have been born: Evelyn, born October 22, 1904, died March 15, 1906, of accidental

poisoning, and the second daughter, Evelyn R., was born March 9, 1906.

**Hans Christensen,** farmer and carpenter of Alden township, is now serving his eighth year as school treasurer. He has been school clerk six years, chairman one year of the town of Alden, side supervisor four years, assessor four years and secretary of the Alden and Black Brook Mutual Fire Insurance Company for sixteen years. Mr. Christensen was born in Denmark, July 18, 1857, son of Christ and Annie (Thompson) Christensen, natives of Denmark, who died in that country in 1882. Our subject received his education in the public schools of his native land and learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for some time before coming to America. In 1877 he located in Hudson, Wis., and worked on a farm, then worked at carpentering. In 1880 he and his brother Thomas purchased 120 acres in Lake Town, Polk county, Wis. He afterward sold his sixty acres to Thomas, coming to Alden township in 1888, where he bought eighty acres, broke and improved the land, erected a new house and barn 30x60 and made other alterations and developments. He continues his carpenter work and does general farming, making a specialty of dairying. Our subject was married November 4, 1883, to Amelia Mindrum, of South Stillwater, Minn., daughter of Even and Olefine Mindrum, both now deceased. To this union five children have been born: Etta, now at Stevens Point Normal school; Clarence, in Sioux City, working for the Great Northern railroad; Vincent, attending the Stevens Point business school; Olcott, at home, and Herman, at home. The family religion is that of the Lutheran church.

**Henry Daniels,** owner of the Bunker Hill stock farm, Alden township, Polk county, was born in Clarion Creek, Elk county, Penn., July 7, 1867, son of Henry and Jennie (Gilbreath) Daniels, natives of that state, the former being a lumberman. The father died in 1869 and the mother passed away March 7, 1888, having been remarried to V. M. Babcock, an attorney-at-law of Polk county. Henry Daniels received his early education in his native state and in Polk county, to which he came with his mother in 1883 at the age of sixteen years. In 1902 he purchased 187 acres in Alden township, broke the land and improved it, and has since carried on general farming and stock raising.

In 1903 he built a fine new home, and in 1905 a new barn, 36x50 feet. For the fifteen years past he has been school treasurer and is regarded as one of the solid and substantial citizens of the township. His farming is done along the latest improved lines and in his operations the latest styles of farm implements are used. Mr. Daniels was married November 11, 1889, to Alice

Kittel, daughter of Varnum and Rose Kittel, farmers of Alden township, Polk county. The mother died in June, 1888, and the father now makes his home with our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Daniels have been blessed with three children: Earl, born February 7, 1891; Howard, born July 4, 1896, and Rose, born July 28, 1902. All three children are at home. The family religion is that of the Episcopal church.

**N. Davis** owns lands in St. Croix county, and has many of his business affiliations in New Richmond, Wis., but the larger part of his farm lies in Alden township, Polk county, Wisconsin, just across the county line. He was born in 1850 in Stubent county, New York, son of A. and Lydia (Hewett) Davis, who lived and died in New York state. N. Davis came westward in June, 1865, and lived one year in Illinois. After one year spent in Iowa, Mr. Davis went to Stillwater, Minn., and worked on the river from 1867 to 1877. At that time there was a slight slump in the lumber business, so Mr. Davis decided to take up farming. He accordingly came to Wisconsin and purchased a large tract of land, 190 of which was in Alden township, Polk county, and 160 of which was in Star Prairie township, St. Croix county. On the Alden farm he erected a house and barns and at once set at work developing the land. He now does a general farming and raises grade cattle and Poland-China hogs. In 1876 Mr. Davis was married to Ida Pilgrim, by whom he has had seven children: Elmer is a farmer in Star Prairie, Wis.; Carrie married C. Mock, a farmer of Polk county; Nellie is married and lives in North Dakota; Roy married a Miss Johnson and assists in running the home farm; William and Elsie live at home, and Maude died when young. Mr. Davis votes the Republican ticket. He has never sought public office nor does he belong to any fraternity. He loves his home and is greatly devoted to his family, his farm being one of his chief prides. He has made all that he owns by his own efforts and is a fine example of a self-made man.

**Ole H. Hagen,** an industrious and hard-working farmer of Alden township, was born in Norway, August 16, 1854, son of Hans N. and Mary Hagen, natives of Norway, who came to America in June, 1870, located in Wisconsin, then in 1873 came to Alden township, Wisconsin, bought 120 acres of land, broke the ground, made general improvements and carried on mixed farming until the father's death, February 14, 1904. The mother passed away October 26, 1898. Ole H. Hagen received his education in the common schools, came to America, to Wisconsin and to Alden township with his parents, farmed until 1888 with his father. He then took charge of the old homestead and has since carried on general farming, raising grains and live stock and

dairying. He is a Republican in politics, a director of the school district and a member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Hagen was married to Anna T. Risdal. To this union have been born six children: Hilda, born June 19, 1895; Tulda, February 8, 1897; Edna, February 10, 1898; Norman, May 15, 1900; Odin, September 25, 1902, and Rolf, September 5, 1906. Mrs. Hagen died October 26, 1898, sincerely mourned by all who knew her.

**Ole O. Hagemoen** is a native of Norway, born December 5, 1870, son of Ole and Sigfrid Hagemoen, also natives of that country. The father came to America in 1874, located in Alden township and purchased eighty acres, to which he added until he owned 160 acres. He made the necessary developments and engaged in general farming until 1896, when he retired and deeded his farm to the subject of our sketch, still continuing, however, to make the home place his residence until his death, November 22, 1899. The mother still survives, making her home with our subject. Ole O. Hagemoen came to America with his mother in 1876 and received his education in the public schools, farming with his father in Alden township until taking possession of the farm. He has continued general farming with great success and has improved the land and buildings, rebuilding the home in the spring of 1908. Our subject is a Republican in politics and has never sought for public office. He once served as clerk and treasurer of School District No. 1, and is a member of the Sons of Norway, the Modern Woodmen of America and the American Society of Equity. The family religion is that of the Lutheran church. Mr. Hagemoen has a sister, Ingborg, born April 28, 1874, who keeps house for him, he still being single. Our subject is a hard working man and a good citizen.

**John Johnston,** a farmer of Alden township, was born in Sweden, December 7, 1845, son of John and Martha Johnston. The mother died in the old country and the father died in Alden township in 1893, one year after having come here with his son, who went on a visit to the old country for the purpose of bringing him here. Our subject was educated in the common schools of his native country and came to America in 1866, locating in Star Prairie, St. Croix county, Wis. He lived there on a farm nine years, having bought land there. He then came to Alden township and purchased 240 acres of good land, 120 of which is under the plow. Mr. Johnston has cleared sixty acres himself. He now carries on general farming, making a specialty of dairying. He keeps twenty-five cows of good grade and sells milk to the creamery at Little Falls, Wis. He is a Republican in politics and has served on the school board. Although a poor young man when he came to this country he now owns as fine a farm as can be found in the township. Our subject was married in 1869 to

Kate Arnquist, by whom he has had eight children: Gust works in a sawmill in New Richmond, Mary married James Flannigan, Robert is dead, Annie lives in Minneapolis, Edith married Peter Jensen, of Volga, Polk county; Emma and Cora are at home and John is an attorney in Minneapolis.

**Ole S. Lee** was born in Stjordalen, Norway, March 22, 1861, son of Ole J. Lee and Serina Erickson Lee, who came to America in 1871, located in Alden township the same year and homesteaded eighty acres of land, doing general farming for several years, until they retired and turned the farm over to our subject, with whom they lived until their death. The mother passed away February 12, 1891, and the father November 10, 1902. Ole S. Lee received his education in the common schools of Norway and America and took up farming with his parents until 1880, when he took entire charge of the home place, carrying on general farming. To this farm he has added from time to time until he now owns 360 acres. In 1908 he erected a new brick dwelling house, a barn and other buildings, all modern as to waterworks, plumbing, heating and the like. The farm is called the Cottage Grove Stock and Poultry farm and upon this place the family now resides, Mr. Lee being engaged in mixed farming and stock raising. He rents the old homestead and a part of the farm. Our subject was married July 2, 1885 to Johanna Erickson, daughter of John Erickson and Mathea Erickson, natives of Norway. Her father died in 1879 and the mother is still living in Norway. To Mr. and Mrs. Lee have been born six children: Oliver, born January 16, 1886, is now serving in the United States marine corps in the Philippine Islands. Emma M. was born November 2, 1887; Clara S. was born July 23, 1890; Ida W. was born March 2, 1893; Mina J. was born September 19, 1895, and Walter B. was born December 19, 1897. All except Oliver are living at home. Our subject has always taken an active interest in public affairs and has held such positions as member of the school board of his district and member of the town and county board for a number of years. In politics he is a Democrat and as such he has taken an active part in the party work in his county. He has been a delegate to county and state conventions of his party and has served as county committeeman. The family religion is that of the Lutheran church.

**Amund Nelson,** of the firm of Berg & Nelson, dealers in general merchandise at Alden, Wis., was born in Norway, August 17, 1867, son of Nels E. and Mary Nelson, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1870 and located at Coon Valley, Wis., one year, coming to Alden, Wis., in 1871. They purchased 160 acres, broke and improved the land, built a house and outbuildings and carried on general farming until 1901, when they sold the farm

and took up their home with their son, John, in Alden township, where they ended their days, the father passing away in 1904 and the mother in 1903. Our subject was educated in the schools of Alden, and after leaving school took up farming with his father until twenty-one years of age, then clerked in the store of Berg & Dodge for fifteen years. In 1904, in partnership with L. A. Berg, he opened a store, which has been very successful. The store is located in Alden township and carries a stock of general merchandise, containing everything that is usually carried in such a store. They conduct everything in an up-to-date business-like manner and have won the respect of the people who deal with them. Mr. Nelson was married August 18, 1894, to Anne Foss, of New Richmond, daughter of Eric A. Foss, a native of Norway. Two children have blessed this union: Roy, born March 22, 1895, and Fred, born August 18, 1897. Our subject is a Republican in politics and the family religion is that of the Lutheran church. Aside from his business interests, Mr. Nelson has a fine residence in Star Prairie, Wis.

**Lemon E. Parslow,** of Alden township, Wis., has been a justice of the peace for twenty years. His public services have also included clerk of the court from 1900 to 1906, town clerk six years, town treasurer one term, school clerk and director for several terms, and secretary of a local Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company five years. He is now assessor of Alden township. In all these several capacities he has served with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his fellow citizens. Mr. Parslow was born in Sylvester, Green county, Wis., December 4, 1854, son of Joseph and Martha (Bell) Parslow, farmers of New York state, who came west in 1852, located in Green county, Wis., staying until 1858, then locating in Alden township, homesteading eighty acres, breaking the land, making general improvements and continuing general farming until 1882, when the mother died. In 1887 the father went to Oregon and made his home with a daughter, with whom he now lives. Our subject received his education in the public schools, followed teaching eight years in Polk county and then started farming on the old homestead. In 1895 he sold his interest in the home place, and in 1902 bought eighty acres in Alden township, erected house and outbuildings and continued to carry on general farming. Mr. Parslow is a Republican in politics, an Episcopalian in religion, a Mason in fraternal associations. He was married June 18, 1881, to Jessie B. Libby, of New Richmond, Wis., step-daughter of Asa and Julia (Barrowes) Libby, the former a native of Maine and the latter of Massachusetts. To this union have been born six children: Leighton E., Maude L., married to Fred Medvidek; Eleanor G., Ethel J., Mildred P. and Irene.

**Fred Route** was born in Germany, September 10, 1857, and came to America in 1880, locating first in Pierce county, doing general work until 1882, when he engaged in the milling business in Trimbelle township, Wis., running a grist mill for eighteen years. He was out of business for one year, after which, in 1901, he came to Little Falls, Wis., and purchased his present mill and property, since which time he has continued to run the mill with great success, which has a capacity of about 150 barrels a day. He owns a fine piece of property in Little Falls village and has already become one of the prominent citizens of Alden township. He belongs to the Odd Fellows. Our subject was married in 1885 to Emelie Schuster, whose parents were old settlers of Washington county, Minnesota. To this union six children have been born: August, the oldest, is a miller at Hebron, N. Dak. The others, Fritz, Henry, Edith, Emma and Albert, are at home. Although Mr. Route is practically a newcomer, he is already taking an active interest in the public affairs of the township. He is a hard worker and very industrious, being one of those men who by their attention to business help to develop the natural resources and advantages of the county.

**T. O. Winger** was born in Martell, Pierce county, Wis., January 17, 1860. His parents were natives of Norway, coming to America and settling in Wisconsin, in 1845. His father, who was a farmer and sawmill man, is now deceased, and the mother is now living in Minneapolis. Our subject was educated in the public schools at Anoka, Minn., and then clerked in his father's store in Martell, Wis., for six years. Subsequently he engaged as engineer in the sawmills and then took up work in a carding mill, at which occupation he has since become an expert. From Cokato, where he and his brother C. Winger, first started this work, he went to New Richmond, Wis., thence to Martell, Wis., where they started a woolen mill and opened a store. In 1894 they started their present mill and also opened a general store, which they have since operated in this vicinity, being located in Little Falls, Alden township. Aside from this they own 135 acres of land, upon which they do general farming and stock raising. Mr. Winger is a Republican in politics and has been chairman of the township. Being interested in education, he has served as school clerk, and in fraternal circles he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Beavers. Our subject was married in 1886 to Gustie Bonsnes, by whom he has six children: Maude, Jerome, Raymond, Hazel Agnes, Anna and William.

A reminder of the progress of modern times in invention and traveling facilities since the time of our grandparents is the fact that it took the grandparents of Mr. Winger nearly a year to get from their mountain home in old Norway to Milwaukee, Wis.

They started in the early spring and arrived in Jefferson county, Wis., in the late fall, making a trip that would now take about twenty days. When Mr. Winger's father decided to strike out for the West he made the trip across the state of Wisconsin on foot, locating in Pierce county in 1855.

## APPLE RIVER TOWNSHIP.

The town of Apple River was organized January 22, 1876, and is well watered by Apple river and its tributaries. It also has a number of lakes, the most considerable of which is White Ash lake. The soil is good for raising wheat, and natural meadows are found in some parts. The land was originally covered with pine trees. There are five schoolhouses in the township. The chairman of Apple River township is A. A. Ekegren; clerk, Charles Davidson; treasurer, Oscar Markee; assessor, Gust Hallberg. There are in the township, in 1908, 191 horses, assessed at $9,290.50; 1,189 neat cattle, assessed at $14,408; 530 sheep and lambs, assessed at $1,296.50; 169 swine, assessed at $669; 21,938.66 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $164,803; personal property, assessed at $28,283.50; total assessment of all property, $193,086.50. The acreage devoted to the various crops in this township in 1908 was as follows: Wheat, 39; corn, 109; oats, 899; barley, 146; rye, 22; potatoes, 52; cultivated hay, 1,133. There is one hamlet, Apple River village.

**Alfred J. Anderson** was born in Sweden, September 10, 1857, son of Peter and Mary C. Anderson, natives of Sweden, who came to America in 1869 and located at Susquehanna, Penn. In the spring of 1871 they came to Rush City, Minn., and purchased a farm of 120 acres, making all improvements and carrying on general farming until the death of the father, in September, 1907. The mother passed away March 5, 1902. Alfred J. received his education in Sweden and America and then took up milling at Rush City, Minn., and Minneapolis. In 1883 he came to Wisconsin and continued milling at Turtle Lake and Amery. In 1884 he purchased eighty acres of land in Apple River township, Wis., and later added eighty more, making in all 160 acres. In 1885 he moved his family onto this farm, broke and improved the land, erected a home and outbuildings and has since carried on general farming, making a specialty of dairying and stock raising. In politics he is a Republican. He has been justice of the peace twenty years, a position which he still occupies. He was chairman of the township fourteen years and clerk of his school district twenty years. For four years he was president of the Apple River and Beaver Creamery Company, of which he is now treasurer, having served in his present capacity five years. He has been secretary for five years of the Apple River Mutual

Insurance Company, of which he was president four years. Our subject was married in 1882, November 1, to Johannah Peterson, of Minneapolis. Her parents were born in Sweden, located in Fish Lake, Minn., and then moved to Harris, Minn., where they lived at the time of their death. To this union eight children have been born: Emily A. died in infancy; Emma J., born September 3, 1885, married August Carlson; Mabel died in infancy; Adelia E. was born April 23, 1889; Elmer R. was born April 2, 1892; Edith T. was born May 5, 1895; Almira S. was born October 21, 1897; Lloyd E. was born June 21, 1901, and Ethelind A. was born May 28, 1904. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

**Alfred A. Ekegren** was born in Scandia, Washington county, Minn., July 30, 1870, son of John and Charlotte (Peterson) Ekegren, the former of whom came to America in 1865, and located in Scandia, Minn., purchasing 220 acres, which he broke and improved, being still engaged in general farming. His wife, Charlotte, was brought to America by her parents in 1850, while still a young child. Alfred received his education in the district schools of Scandia and remained with his father until eighteen years of age. He then went to California and worked in the prune orchards until 1894, when he returned to Scandia, Minn., and entered into the well-drilling business, continuing for four years. In 1894 he engaged in the mercantile business at Range, Beaver township, Wis., meeting with success. In 1905 he sold out this business and purchased 350 acres of land in Apple River township, Wis., where he is now located. He broke and improved the land, erected comfortable buildings, and carries on general farming, making a specialty of Shropshire sheep, of which he owns a flock of 150. He is a Republican in politics and is now chairman of the township of Apple River, also clerk of the joint School District No. 1, Apple River and Beaver township. In religion he is a Lutheran, and in fraternal associations, a member of the Modern Woodmen of Turtle Lake, Wis. Mr. Ekegren was married July 1, 1903, to Ellen Bergren, a school teacher, born September 10, 1882, daughter of Charles and Charlotte (Anderson) Bergren, farmers of Garfield township. This union has resulted in two children: Wallace A., born March 31, 1904, and Merl R., born May 23, 1907. Mr. Ekegren is a first-rate citizen in every respect, a discerning reader, a lover of education and a believer in justice in all things.

**Gust Johnson** was born in Sweden, October 27, 1862. He received his education in his native land and took up farming, carpentering and blacksmithing. In 1890 he came to America and located in Minneapolis, Minn., following the carpenters' trade until 1897. In 1898 he came to Apple River township, Wis., and

purchased eighty acres of land. To this he soon added eighty more, making 160 acres in all. He broke and improved the land, but continued his trade until 1906, when he gave all his attention to farming. He now carries on diversified farming operations and raises some stock. Mr. Johnson is a Republican in politics, has been road supervisor one term, justice of the peace five years and has just been elected to his second term of three years as treasurer of the school district. He is a member of the Lutheran church and belongs to the Modern Woodmen. Our subject was married in Sweden, October 20, 1889, to Caroline Nelson, daughter of Nels and Christine Sattcklison, the former of whom is dead and the latter is still living in Sweden. One child has blessed this union: Nena Augusta, born November 17, 1890. Mr. Johnson, aside from his farm property, owns stock in the Polk County Creamery Company, and was on its board of directors for one year. He is also secretary of the local lodge of the American Society of Equity, which was organized June 9, 1908.

**William Helin** was born in Sweden October 21, 1854, son of Carl M. and Britta Helin, natives of that country, also. The father, a tailor by trade, died in March, 1900, and the mother is still living in the old country. William received his education in his native country and was a glassblower until coming to America in 1882, when he located at Harris, Chisago county, Minn., and went to work on the railroad, doing various labor, including carpentering, until 1884, when he came to Apple River township and purchased eighty acres of land. In 1886 he bought forty acres adjoining, built a house and outbuildings and continued to carry on general farming, making a specialty of dairying. In 1907 he erected a fine new barn, 34x72 feet. Mr. Helin is a Republican, has served as side supervisor one year and is now health officer of Apple River. He belongs to the Lutheran church, and affiliates with the American Society of Equity. Our subject was first married October 21, 1876, to Mary Swanson, daughter of John and Pretternella Jenson, of Sweden. She died April 6, 1886, leaving four children: Ida C., Charles G., Clara M., deceased, and George W. Mr. Helin was married the second time in January, 1900, to Annie Johnson, daughter of Andrew Magnuson, both of Sweden. By this union there are five children: Hula V., Josie A., Emma C., Gustaf E. and Edla A. Mr. Helin is a friend of education and has been a director of his school district for six years.

## BALSAM LAKE TOWNSHIP.

Balsam Lake township was organized in 1869. The first supervisors were George P. Anderson, Wright Haskins and Joseph Loveless. The clerk was H. J. Fall; the treasurer, F. R. Loveless.

The first school was taught by Jane Husband. There are now four schoolhouses in the town. Aaron M. Chase built a shingle mill at the outlet of Balsam lake in 1850, and he seems to have been the first actual settler or the first man to make improvements. As he had neither oxen nor horses, the timbers for the mill were hauled by man power with the aid of yokes and ropes. Other persons came to the mill and lived there awhile, but the first permanent settlers came in 1856. They were J. Shepherd, Joseph Loveless, Joseph Ravett and John M. Rogers. Mr. Rogers raised the first crops in the township; Joseph Ravett was the first postmaster. The first marriage was that of J. K. Adams to Miss L. A. Millerman. A first-class flouring mill was erected at the outlet of Balsam lake, owned by Herman Corning. A sawmill was also in operation at that point. A Methodist church, 30x40 feet, was erected at Balsam Lake in 1886. The chairman of Balsam Lake township is Charles M. Edman; clerk, George L. Freeman; treasurer, Fred Loveless; assessor, John P. Peterson. There are in the township, in 1908, 252 horses, assessed at $14,055; 1,191 cattle, assessed at $16,495; 309 sheep and lambs, assessed at $721; 283 swine, assessed at $1,283; 19,006.06 acres, assessed with improvements, at $206,810; personal property, assessed at $43,934; total assessment of all property, $250,744. The acreage devoted to the various crops in this township in 1908 was as follows: Wheat, 95; corn, 349; oats, 962; barley, 240; rye, 22; potatoes, 56½; other root crops, 2½; cultivated hay, 1,162; standing timber, 7,005. There are two settlements, Balsam Lake village and Lykens.

**Edward Y. Arnold,** cashier of the Polk County bank, at Balsam Lake, was born in New York state, September 13, 1884, son of C. E. Arnold, at present located in Chicago as a representative of the International Correspondence school of Scranton, Penn. Our subject was educated in the high school of Binghamton, N. Y., and at Chicago. He resided at Lake Geneva, Wis., for one year and subsequently lived in Kansas City and Minneapolis, being engaged in the real estate business. Later he started in the banking business and was assistant cashier of the state bank at Lansing, Iowa. In May, 1907, he became cashier of the Polk County bank, a state bank, located at Balsam Lake. The bank was organized by E. Perkins, now living in Illinois. Mr. Arnold is a progressive business man and a thorough believer in the future prosperity of Polk county. According to the statement rendered by Mr. Arnold at the close of business on September 23, 1908, the condition of the bank on that date was as follows: Resources: Loans and discounts, $34,180.86; overdrafts, $424.88; banking house, $2,100; furniture and fixtures, $600; due from other banks, $3,812.65; checks on other banks and cash items, cash

on hand, $2,468.62; other real estate owned, $1,030.61; sundries, $40.47; total resources, $44,658.09. Liabilities: Capital stock paid in, $15,000; surplus fund, $1,000; undivided profits, $664.08; due to banks, $13.32; in individual deposits, subject to check, $12,134.99; demand certificates of deposit, $75; time certificates of deposit, $8,440.16; savings deposits, $5,219.21; notes and bills rediscounted, $1,111.33; bills payable, $1,000; total liabilities, $44,658.09.

**Charles Edman,** a farmer of Balsam Lake township, is a native of Sweden, born July 13, 1855, son of John and Louisa Edman, who came to the United States in 1868. The father was an overseer of a large farm in the old country and on coming to this country took up farming in Minnesota. Charles is self-educated, having received little or no schooling. He came to Polk county in 1869 and homesteaded his present place in Balsam Lake township. The homestead consisted of 160 acres and to this Mr. Edman added until he possessed 250 acres, eighty of which is under the plow. He carries on general farming, raising the usual crops and live stock. For years he has run a threshing machine with considerable success. For several terms he has been chairman of Balsam Lake township, and for some time served as assessor. He is a Republican in politics. Our subject was married in 1899 to Tillie Wyberg, of Red Wing, Minn., by whom he has four children: Mary, Harold, Hulda and Eben. The country around Mr. Edman's vicinity is being rapidly developed and improved and in time it is expected that his will be one of the valuable farms of the county.

**E. W. Keplinger,** local manager for the Polk County Coöperative Company at Lykens, was born in Minnesota, May 12, 1867, son of E. R. and Anna (Ellis) Keplinger. The father was a veteran in the Civil War, serving in the Fourteenth Vermont Volunteer Infantry for four years, being connected with the Army of the Potomac. He participated in the grand review at Washington, D. C., and then came West soon afterward, settling in Douglas county, Minn. He now lives in Bellingham, Wash., where he is connected with a sash and door factory. Our subject was educated in Alexandria, Minn., and started in life as a clerk. He came to Polk county in 1899 and established a general store at Lykens, which after five years, was sold to the Polk County Coöperative Company, Mr. Keplinger becoming the local manager. In this capacity he has met with much success and is greatly liked by his fellow townsmen. The store handles general merchandise, hardware and the like. Mr. Keplinger was married September 9, 1895, to Anna M. Bloom, of St. Peter, Minn. By this union there are five children: Evelyn, Gladys, Goldie, Joyce and Horace. Our subject is a Republican in politics and a member of the Knights

of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen. He is meeting with the success which he well deserves, and is regarded as one of the progressive and popular men in the township.

**C. E. Nelson,** a progressive farmer of Balsam Lake township, is a native of Sweden, born May 22, 1865, son of A. J. and Emelia Nelson, who came to Polk county, Wis., in 1880, settling at Clam Falls, where both now reside on the old homestead. Our subject received his early education in Sweden, supplemented by six months in the schools of this county. For sixteen years he farmed in Balsam Lake township and spent twelve winters in the woods, with three summers on the St. Croix river. He has also engaged to some extent in building and working on the railroad. His farm consists of 200 acres of rich land in Balsam Lake, fifty of which has been cleared by Mr. Nelson. When he first settled on the place the land was very wild and it was quite common to see deer on the farm in the fall. A Republican in politics, our subject has served as school clerk, assessor and road overseer, in all of which capacities he has served with great credit. Mr. Nelson was married in 1891 to Augusta M. Edman, sister of Charles Edman, of whom a sketch will be found in this work. To this union has been born one daughter, Myrtle, who is at home. The family has a comfortable home, where friends are always welcome, and Mr. Nelson is highly regarded by his neighbors.

## BALSAM LAKE VILLAGE.

Balsam Lake is situated in the geographical center of Polk county; it is about fifty miles, in a direct line, northeast of St. Paul, and about eighty miles south of Superior. The name which is applied to the township as well as to the village and lake, is an incorrect translation of the Chippewa name, "In-nun-de-go-cog" (pronounced with the accent on the second syllable) which signifies "Evergreen Place." There are many beautiful lakes in this vicinity, the principal ones being Balsam lake, Long lake, Bass lake, Deer lake, Mud lake, Wild Goose lake and many smaller ponds; besides, several fine creeks and springs insure a supply of water even in times of greatest drought. These lakes and streams have high clay or gravel banks, and are not fringed with marshy or boggy shores; their waters are clear and fresh and contain myriads of fish of many varieties, black bass and pickerel predominating. Balsam lake is second in size, but by far the finest and most picturesque body of water in Polk county; its natural beauty is unsurpassed by anything except mountain scenery. To break the monotony of the expanse of waters the lake contains numerous islands, all but one of which are covered with a luxuriant growth of trees, both deciduous and evergreen. Balsam Lake is known by its being the county seat, but a few

years ago it was noted only for its excellent black bass fishing. The number of fish taken from its waters each season is marvelous and yet the supply seems to be inexhaustible. It is not an uncommon occurrence for a single fisherman to return with from thirty to seventy-five pounds of black bass as the reward of one day's patience. The outlet of the lake is known as Balsam branch and is a tributary of Apple river. On leaving the lake, the stream forms natural rapids and by the construction of a dam an excellent water power is formed, which operates a sawmill and a flour mill. At a small additional expense the power can be increased sufficiently to operate a very good electric light and power plant. The village is situated on the west side of the lake near its outlet. Its streets are wide and conform accurately with the cardinal points. The courthouse occupies a block in the northeast corner of the village, and was erected in 1899 at an expense of over $30,000. It is built of brick and stone and is roofed with slate. The village has a population of 323, a state bank, with a capital of $15,000, a newspaper, the "Ledger"; two hotels, one harness shop, a livery barn, one hardware store, one general store, a flouring mill and sawmills.

**Edward E. Husband,** a well-known editor of Polk county, was born in Flint township, Pike county, Illinois, March 15, 1877, son of Robert and Esley (Grable) Husband, the former of English and the latter of Welsh-German descent. Robert Husband visited Polk county for the first time in 1862 and worked in one of the early sawmills at Balsam Lake. Later he enlisted in Company F, 137th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served six months. Subsequently he came from Illinois to Wisconsin again. In those days the region now known as Polk county was a wilderness and deer were as plentiful as rabbits are at the present time. After thoroughly satisfying himself as to the desirability of this county as a place of permanent abode, he brought his family here in 1881 and located on a farm that now lies within the village limits of Balsam Lake. He died October 26, 1904, and his widow still survives. Edward E. Husband received a good common school education at home and taught in the schools of Polk county for eight years, working on the farm during summer vacations. After his father's death in 1904 he ran the farm for several years and in 1906 was a candidate for clerk of the court, being defeated by John Davidson by a small majority. In March, 1907, he purchased the "Polk County Ledger," since which time the paper has become one of the recognized weeklies of the Northwest—an important factor in the politics of the county. The editorials are well written and the paper is newsy and readable. In politics Mr. Husband has always been a Republican. He has been twice elected justice of

the peace, has served one year as school treasurer and three years, 1905-1908, as district school clerk. During the same period he was village clerk. He has always been interested in and connected with every public enterprise of a local nature and is recognized as one of the leading exponents of all that tends to the betterment of the county and village. The family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church, and while Mr. Husband is not a member of any religious body, he is an active worker in the church and Sunday-school. On June 14, 1905, Mr. Husband was married to Mamie Kippen, daughter of James D. Kippen, of Clear Lake, Wis.

**Amil Markee** is serving his second term as clerk of Polk county. His services have given great satisfaction and he has proven an able officer in every way. He is affable in his manner and conscientious in his duties, always ready to go out of his way to do a friend a favor. Although self-educated he has a broad fund of general information, and is a most interesting gentleman to meet. He is a native of this county, born May 8, 1870, son of Theo. Markee, of Canada. The father came to Polk county in 1860, and homesteaded a farm, working in the lumber woods also. He died March 27, 1875, when Amil was a very small boy. Our subject received his preliminary education in the district schools, but left his studies at an early age to go to work. He farmed and worked at lumbering, being employed a part of the time on the Apple river. At an early age he was elected to township office and held the office of clerk of Apple River township for eight years. He has also been justice of the peace and school clerk. In 1904 he was elected to his present position, which he has filled with great credit. Mr. Markee is still single, and lives with his mother on the old homestead.

His mother, born near Stockholm, Sweden, February 1, 1837, is a woman of prominence, noble character and marked ability. For several years she owned and managed a store of general merchandise at Shiloh Postoffice, this county. She married for her second husband Nels G. Beckman. Amil is the oldest of three brothers, the others being Herman, born April 10, 1872, and Oscar, born May 22, 1875. Our subject is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the Modern Woodmen. He votes the Republican ticket.

**E. W. Overman,** a retired merchant of Balsam Lake village, was born in London, England, June 25, 1845, son of Thomas W. and Elizabeth Overman, both of whom died in England. Our subject spent his early life on his father's farm, later engaging for ten years as a clerk in the retail business, there being 150 employes in the same establishment. He then decided to come to America. After landing in Stillwater, Minn., which at that time

had the nearest railroad to Polk county, he paid $35 to get to Taylors Falls, and even after paying that sum he had to walk a greater part of the way, encountering wild game of all kinds. In 1872 he reached Balsam Lake township and began farming the same year. Later he moved to Balsam Lake and became postmaster, starting on a small scale in the mercantile business. After five years of this he again purchased a farm, about four miles from the village, and lived there until 1900, when he again came to the village and bought the Tuttle House. He ran this hotel for two and a half years, after which he retired, taking up his home in his present fine residence in the village, renting the hotel to other parties. Our subject is a Republican in politics and has served as township treasurer nineteen years, has been a school officer for many years and has also been village clerk and a member of the township side board. He was secretary and one of the organizers of the local creamery. Mr. Overman was married in 1874 to Mary Young, daughter of Robert and Sarah (Bardon) Young, residents of Canada, but natives respectively of Scotland and England. This union resulted in ten children, six of whom are living. They are as follows: Elizabeth, married to J. Nelson, who runs Mr. Overman's hotel; William H. (deceased), John R., Maggie (deceased), Albert, married to Rosamund Tuttle; Lou Ella, May, married to Nels Davidson; Travers (deceased), Roy (deceased), Ray and Lulu Emma.

**J. W. Park**, for nearly a quarter of a century postmaster at Balsam Lake village, was born in Crawford county, Ohio, August 4, 1840. He went to school and farmed until the Civil war, when, in 1864, he enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served in the Army of the Potomac. He subsequently spent three years working for himself on a farm, and then followed the sawmill business for thirteen years in Williams county, Ohio. In 1881 he came to Balsam Lake and purchased a saw and flour mill, which he still owns and operates. In 1886 he was appointed postmaster, and about that time he opened a mercantile establishment. October 3, 1895, the store burned down, and he erected his present large store, which commands a wide trade, and carries a fine lot of goods. Mr. Park was married in 1862 to Philo Hammond, a native of Ohio. By this union there are four children: Alva D. is at Park Falls. For twenty years he managed his father's flour mill, but is now in the lumber business. Ira H. is now in the employ of his father. Olive married W. C. Park, a lumberman and farmer. She now keeps house for her father. Euella married R. Elvin. Mrs. Park died February 4, 1901. Our subject is a Republican in politics, having cast his first vote for Lincoln. He cast the vote in Chatfield, Crawford county, Ohio, at a time when there were but three

Republicans in the town, his being the only Republican vote that was cast. For some twenty years he has been a member of the county board, and is the present supervisor of Balsam Lake.

**E. A. Scharin,** who resides at Sand Lake, in Osceola township, is a native of the parish of Ekeby, province of Ostergothland, Sweden, born August 13, 1855. He was educated in his native country and was a sophomore in the College of Strengnaas when, with his parents he started for America, landing in St. Croix Falls July 3, 1869. His father and mother, Bengt and Helena Sophia (Botvidson) Scharin, purchased a piece of land in Osceola township, where the father still lives, the mother having died in 1904. E. A. Scharin also bought a piece of land and cleared up a farm, upon which he still lives. At the age of twenty-one years he was elected justice of the peace in the town of Osceola. In 1886 he was elected town clerk of Osceola and served until he was elected town chairman in 1894, remaining in that capacity until 1897. He was then elected county clerk for two successive terms, or four years, after which he began work on the compilation of a set of abstract records for the Cushing land agency, of St. Croix Falls, and is still working for the company, being its local representative at Balsam Lake. He also does similar work for the Polk County Abstract Company, of St. Croix Falls. Our subject is an active Republican and has been a delegate to many state and county conventions. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and actively participates in the work of the church at Sand Lake.

## BEAVER TOWNSHIP.

The town of Beaver includes township 34, range 15. The name was suggested as being appropriate from the work of the beaver in past years. Beaver dams were numerous on all the creeks. The town is drained by streams flowing into Apple river. It was set off from Apple river and organized November 15, 1885. Horseshoe lake, in the northeast corner, is three miles in length. There are four schoolhouses in the township. The chairman of Beaver township is Albert Rosenbush; clerk, Exel Johnson; treasurer, Alcides Gamache; assessor, Martin Schramski. There are in the township in 1908, 257 horses, assessed at $9,820; 1,193 neat cattle, assessed at $14,291; 2 mules, assessed at $60; 373 sheep and lambs, assessed at $747; 80 swine, valued at $524; 23,087 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $1,531.50; personal property, assessed at $33,922; total assessed value of all property, $1,870.72. The acreage devoted to the various crops in this township in 1908 was as follows: Wheat, 39; corn, 122; oats, 757; barley, 126; rye, 26; flaxseed, 9; potatoes, 46; sugar beet, 1; other root crops, 2½; hay, 913. The trading point is the village of Range.

**Hans L. Hagestad** was born in Martell township, Pierce county, this state, May 6, 1870, son of the Rev. O. J. K. Hagestad and Ida Lee Hagestad, both natives of Norway, the former born in Hardanger and the latter in Guldbrandsulen. The father studied for the ministry in Norway and came to America in the early fifties, located in Pierce county, Wisconsin, and was ordained to the ministry, having parishes at St. Paul, Minn.; Black Brook, Wis., and Rush River, Wis. He followed his calling until failing health caused him to seek outdoor life. He then took up farming in Martell, Pierce county, and remained until his death. His wife is also now deceased. Hans L. received his education in Pierce county and then clerked in a store. He then came to Range, Beaver township, Wis., and October, 1906, took charge of the Polk County Coöperative Association, dealers in general merchandise, wholesale and retail. In this village he has since been located. In November, 1906, he received the appointment as postmaster at Range. In addition to his business interests, he owns eighty acres of land in Apple River, Wis. A Republican in politics, he was town treasurer of Martell township for seven years. He is a good citizen and an honest merchant and honorable and upright gentleman in every respect. The family faith is that of the Lutheran Church. Our subject was married, December 23, 1899, to Severina Bonsness, daughter of Erick O. and Caroline Bonsness, of Martell, Pierce county. She was born March 19, 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Hagestad have one child, Elmer Orin, born December 21, 1905.

**Carl Jeska**, son of Carl and Annie Jeska, was born in Germany, March 22, 1852, and received his early education in his native country, following farming until coming to this country in 1884. He located first in Beaver township, Wisconsin, and now owns 140 acres of land, upon which he carries on general farming, raising grains and breeding stock. He broke and improved the land and erected buildings. In 1906 he built a new house and the following year he erected a new barn. Mr. Jeska is a Republican in politics and was on the side board of Beaver township for two years. The family faith is that of the German Lutheran Church. Our subject was married in December, 1873, in Germany, to Pauline Penska, a native of that country. To this union ten children have been born: Albert, deceased; Herman, Bertha, Theodore, Charles, Anna, William, Otto, Fred and Freda, all living except Albert.

**Axel Johnson** was born in Denmark, May 22, 1870, son of Christ and Johannah (Peterson) Johnson, the former of whom is living and the latter dead. Axel received his education in the schools of Denmark and America, attending evening schools in Minneapolis for some time. He worked on a dairy farm at Kandi-

yohi county, Minnesota, for a time, then went to Colorado and Wyoming for two years. He subsequently worked in North Dakota and spent three years as general foreman for the Engel Brothers, of Trail county. In 1892 he bought forty acres of land in Apple River township, Wisconsin, and in 1895 purchased 140 acres in Beaver township, where he carries on general farming, stock raising and dairying, making a specialty of dealing in stock. He is a Republican in politics, a Lutheran in religion and a member of the Odd Fellows and the Society of Equity. He is now town clerk for his sixth term, school director for his third term, justice of the peace, secretary and stockholder of the Apple River and Beaver creamery and stockholder and director in the Polk County Coöperative Association. This year (1908) he will represent Burnett and Polk counties in the state assembly. Mr. Johnson was married, December 5, 1894, to Lizzie Peterson, daughter of James and Lorina Peterson, who came from Denmark to America in 1870 and located in Washington county, later homesteading a farm in Beaver township in 1882. There are six children: Alec, Elmer, Earl, Theodore, Harry and Pearl, all at home.

**Leroy W. Kingsbury** is a man whose character and position are known to everyone in the county. He was born in Jamaica, Windham county, Vt., September 15, 1840, son of Merrell and Clemena Butterfield Kingsbury, natives of the Green Mountain state. They emigrated in 1858 to Brillian, Calumet county, Wis., and purchased 100 acres of land, which they broke and improved, remaining until 1866, when they sold and bought 160 acres in Pine Island, Goodhue county. In 1873 they bought 142 acres in Rush City, Chisago county, Minn., and in 1880 sold out and went to Bismarck, Minn., subsequently spending five years in Minneapolis. They lived the next two years in Beaver township, Wisconsin, spending their declining years with their son-in-law, Dr. Fenlesson, in Tennessee. Both parents are now deceased. Leroy received his education in the common schools of Vermont and Wisconsin and after leaving school farmed with his father until 1881, except for the time spent in the army. In May, 1861, he enlisted in the Union army at Chilton, Wis., being mustered in June 14, 1861, serving in Company K, Fourth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, afterward used as cavalry. In 1863 he was promoted to corporal, then to first duty sergeant and later to commissary sergeant, which he held at the time of his discharge. He saw the carnage of war at the battle of Clinton, La.; at the siege of Fort Hudson, at the first siege of Fort Vicksburg and at Baton Rouge, as well as in a great many skirmishes. Upon his discharge at Madison, August 26, 1865, he went to Brillian, Wis., and resumed farming, afterward moving with his parents to Pine Island until 1881, when he went with his family to Bismarck, N. D. He

subsequently lived in turn at Bird Island, Minn., Glencoe, Minn., and Minneapolis. In October, 1886, he came to Beaver township and bought 193 acres, where he broke and improved the land and continued to carry on general farming and stock raising until 1905, when he sold 170 acres to his son and retired, retaining twenty-three acres on the shores of Big Horseshoe lake, where he has a beautiful residence. Mr. Kingsbury was one of the founders of the Horseshoe Lake creamery, of Beaver township, and was secretary and general manager until it ceased to be a coöperative company six years after he took office. He is a Republican in politics, a member of the G. A. R. and a communicant of the Methodist Church. He was chairman of Beaver township eight years, justice of the peace three years, school clerk five years and school director three years. Mr. Kingsbury was married June 6, 1871, to Anna I. Mullican, daughter of Nathaniel Mullican, a native of Lexington, Mass. Mrs. Kingsbury was born in Ornville, Me., and at the time of her marriage lived in Mineola, Goodhue county, Minn. Her father is dead, and her mother, born at St. Johns, N. B., of English parents, lives in Green Acres, Wash. Mr. and Mrs. Kingsbury had five children: Earlbert, Ellsworth, Raie, deceased, Lyndom and Ethel, and seven grand children.

**John Wesley Perley**, a scion of the ancient Perley family and himself a man of distinguished attainments, broad education, acute business judgment and the most liberal generosity, was born in Bridgeton, Me., February 25, 1844, the Perley name at that time being a household word by reason of the connection of the bearers of that name with the extensive lumber interests of that state. The history of the Perley family dates back as far as 1608, in which year Allen Perley was born in Wales, England. He emigrated to New England, arriving at Charlestown, near Boston, July 12, 1630, and settling at Boxford, Mass. To him there succeeded Thomas, born in 1641; another Thomas, born in 1668; Asa, born in 1716; Daniel, born in 1752; another Daniel, born in 1794. To this latter Daniel Perley and his wife, Lavina (Thompson) Perley, was born John Wesley Perley. Mr. Perley in early life became interested in the lumber business. Brought up in Maine, which at that time was furnishing to the states of Minnesota and Wisconsin those sturdy pioneers who developed the natural resources of these two states, he naturally became interested at an early date in the possibilities of the forests. His father was a typical New Englander, honest and hard working. He was a lumberman, being especially interested in lumbering for ship building purposes and making a specialty of furnishing for the sailing vessels of his day those towering masts of which the New Englanders were at that time so proud. In addition to his lumber business, the father owned a large farm,

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to which he devoted much of his time, the farm being one of the richest in his neighborhood. Until the panic of 1836 he was one of the leading business men of Maine. That panic broke his fortune and left him practically penniless; but undaunted by misfortune, he gave his attention wholly to his farm, where he raised his family of children, teaching them the stern old tenets of Puritan religion along with shrewd business sagacity. Parents in those days appreciated the advantages of educating their children, and John Wesley Perley was given the best education that the town afforded at that time, attending the district schools and the Bridgton Academy. To this early training, as well as to his retentive memory, his wide reading and quick comprehension, he owed his broad culture and information. At the age of fourteen his father passed away and he was obliged to turn his attention to the problem of making his daily bread, thus giving him lessons in self-reliance which stood him in such good stead in after life. In 1863, when he was still two years under age, Mr. Perley became enthused with the stories of the vast forests of the Northwest and, coming to Wisconsin, he at once penetrated the heart of the pine region. His first location was at Brookville, on the Eau Galle river, in St. Croix county. After thoroughly investigating the possibilities of logging and shipping, he returned east. April 9, 1864, he purchased a tract of land and a sawmill at Brookville, where he continued for some time. Its annual output was about 1,500,000, a vast amount considering the lack of facilities and the limited market in those early days. Water power was later substituted for steam in the operations at this point and the output was increased. Later Mr. Perley purchased a large tract of land near what is now Hammond, Wis., and sold the same for farming purposes, the property thus disposed of now being the best in the state. In 1872, in company with George Brackett and Jerry Flint, under the firm name of Brackett and Perley, he built a large brick block at River Falls, Wis., and therein opened a store for the retail sale of hardware. After two years Mr. Perley disposed of his interests, and in 1877 engaged for two years in what is now known as Clear Lake township, Polk county. In 1880 he founded the Andrews & Perley Lumber Company, consisting of Dr. A. D. Andrews and his brother, B. W. Andrews, both of River Falls, Wis., together with Mr. Perley. The company founded the town of Perley, Barron county, Wis., on the line of the Omaha railroad, and named it in honor of our subject. For ten years the company continued operations, manufacturing from eight to ten million feet of lumber annually. In 1888 Mr. Perley founded the Bank of St. Croix Falls and was its president until two years before his death. Of this bank it has been said: "During the

existence of this bank it has been conducted in the most conscientious and conservative manner and has won the confidence of its patrons. There has not been a day in its existence when it could not pay in full the demands made upon it, and during the panic of 1893, when banks suspended throughout the entire country, it was the only bank in this section that did not have to withstand a run." In 1890 Mr. Perley became interested in the Carpenter Bar Gold Mining Company, which operates in Deer Lodge county, Montana, and which proved a most profitable investment. In 1870 the subject of our sketch was married to Maria E. Edwards, of River Falls, Wis., a woman of broad culture, innate refinement and beautiful character. To them was born one son, John Edwards. He was born in Hammond, Wis., August 12, 1872, and when he died the light of life and joy went out for his parents. From a child he lacked a strong constitution, and the immediate cause of his death was acute bronchitis. His parents made every effort to prolong his life. From 1886 to 1888 they took up their residence in California for the benefit of his health and while there the young man pursued his studies. A hurried trip to Arizona failed of the desired benefit and the young man died February 14, 1892.

From the time of the death of this son there was a marked change in both parents. Mrs. Perley, finding her health impaired, remained in California at her home in Santa Rosa, where her husband provided her with every necessary comfort. The business engagements of Mr. Perley required his return to his Wisconsin home, but for a time he made visits to California until his impaired health forbade the long and toilsome journey. In 1892 he purchased a large tract of hardwood timber in Polk county, Wisconsin, near St. Croix Falls. Here he gave his attention to the manufacture of railway material, chiefly crossties and car stock. Besides his own mill he controlled the output of many smaller mills, which business he conducted for several years, from 1895 to 1899. Mr. Perley passed away June 22, 1903, at his residence in Beaver, Polk county, Wis., and his body was taken to Santa Rosa, Cal., for burial at the side of his son. His health failed him during the last five years of his life, though most of the time he was fairly well and able to attend to his business. During the last three years only the care of the farm engrossed his attention. There he seemed most happy since he was particularly fond of animals and outdoor life. Two weeks before his death he had a slight paralysis of his left side, apparently of a few hours' duration. He sat up and read thereafter every day until the end came. His charities were large and unostentatious. He maintained a free hospital bed without disclosing his name, gave liberally to other hospitals, and as-

sisted several young men to an education and in business. He was a large-hearted, generous, kind, considerate man, a noble citizen, endeared to his family."

Of him it was also said: "No man in the great Northwest more deserved success and none has left a more honorable record."

Following is a personal estimate of Mr. Perley, written by Judge Allen P. Weld, for many years his friend and legal adviser: "To the world at large Mr. Perley was best known as a typical business man. To the work he had in hand he gave his best and most persistent efforts. He was preëminently a practical man. If he ever indulged in theories it was for self-entertainment and that of his friends rather than an attempt to carry untried theories into actual work. This trait of mind led him to give earnest attention to business in which he was engaged and gave a distinct color to his life, and by doing this he became more than usually successful in obtaining wealth. Yet one who would look upon this as only an evidence of self-seeking would be greatly mistaken. His efforts were not made simply to get rich, but rather to gratify an instinctive desire for success in any chosen undertaking. What he received he freely gave. His charities, though many, were unostentatious. While he delighted in good results from his labors, he was equally pleased to have his friends share in his success. He was perfectly fair in his dealings with those who gave him their confidence and acted fairly in their transactions, but to those who tried to deceive he was almost unrelentless. As the weakening effects of disease became more manifest and his ability to engage in the turmoil of business became less, he began to see that success or wealth in this life is not the all-essential thing and he willingly turned to a study of how to best bestow that which he had gained as well as to regard with deep interest matters of higher and eternal life. Of his thoughts in regard to such matters he was, however, reticent to strangers, but discussed them freely with his intimate friends. And while those who came most closely into an understanding of his mental life were comparatively few, his friends were many in number. Few who had been in his employ but mourned his death, few that were not ready to give a grateful tribute of respect and love to his memory.

**Albert Rosenbush** was born in Monroe county, Ohio, October 17, 1857, son of William and Nancy J. (Coe) Rosenbush, the former a native of Grafenthel, Saxony, Germany, and the latter a native of New York. They were married in Noble county, Ohio, in 1855. The father was a harness maker and tanner, tanning all his own stock. In September, 1861, he enlisted at Columbus,

O., in Company D, Forty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, serving until September 30, 1864, when he was discharged at the place of his enlistment. During his army service he participated in a number of important engagements. In October, 1864, he took up his trade at Summerfield, Noble county, O., continuing until 1867, when he farmed for a year. His next occupation was in the oil business at Cow Run, Washington county, O., until 1872, when he removed to Knapp, Dunn county, Wis. In 1873 he came to Beaver township, Polk county, homesteading 160 acres of land, carrying on general farming until his death, August 20, 1903. His wife is still living and his son, Grant, owns the old homestead. Albert received his education in the common schools of Ohio and then took up lumbering in the woods. In 1879 he purchased eighty acres of land in Beaver township, and in 1889 came to live here. He broke the land, erected buildings and made other improvements, now carrying on general farming. A Republican in politics, he is now chairman of the town board and a justice of the peace. He has been constable, assessor, town clerk, school clerk, member of county Republican committee and county assembly committee. He is a member of the German Lutheran church and affiliates with the Odd Fellows. Mr. Rosenbush was married, March 15, 1885, to Annie Herrde, born November 18, 1870, daughter of Frantz and Augusta (Weckert) Herrde, natives of Berlin, Germany, now located in Beaver township, Wisconsin. This union has resulted in nine children: Mary E., born January 18, 1886, and married to Gust Wistrom; William G., born March 9, 1888; Frank R., born May 26, 1889; Ellen A., born April 2, 1891; Albert E., born April 22, 1894; Francis, born March 4, 1897; James, born April 8, 1900; Myrtle, born December 19, 1905; Joseph, born May 9, 1907.

**Grant Rosenbush** is a native of Akron, O., born July 24, 1871, son of William and Nancy Rosenbush, whose sketch will be found in connection with that of Albert Rosenbush. Grant came to Beaver township with his parents in 1873 and received his education in the common schools, farming with his father until the latter's death, when he took the old homestead, upon which he has since remained. He carries on general mixed farming and raises grains, horses and cattle. He looks after the interests of his mother, who still makes her home on the old place. Mr. Rosenbush is a Republican in politics and is interested in public affairs, but has never sought office. He is a prominent fraternity man, belonging to the Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen, the American Yeomen, the Beavers and the Rebekahs. Our subject was married, September 25, 1891, to Lulu Higbee, of New York state, daughter of Jeff and Ellen (Lowell) Higbee, natives of New York state, now of Fall Creek, Wash. To this union have been born

three children: Leslie, born March 1, 1894; Otis, born March 20, 1896, and Louise, born June 13, 1899. Mrs. Rosenbush died July 29, 1902, on the old homestead, and was buried in the Beaver township cemetery. She was a faithful wife and loving mother, and her death came as a severe blow to her family and friends.

## BLACK BROOK TOWNSHIP.

The town of Black Brook includes township 32, range 16, Apple river, with its tributaries, supplying it with abundant water privileges. Black brook, the principal tributary, gives the town its name and drains the other portion. There are many small lakes, and the soil is good. The Chicago, St. Paul & Minneapolis railroad passes through sections 25 and 36. This town was a part at one time of Alden, but was organized and set off as a new town August 5, 1867. The first supervisors were J. C. Nelson and G. H. Goodrich. John Gorsuch, John Reed and Jacob Polwer settled here in 1863. Gales was the first postmaster. The first school was taught by Tina Starkweather. There are now in the township four good schools. The chairman of Black Brook is A. Ryder; clerk, A. J. Hougdahl; treasurer, Oliver Solum; assessor, L. L. Selvig. There are in the township in 1908: 393 horses, assessed at $32,445; 1,881 cattle, assessed at $29,440; 615 sheep and lambs, assessed at $2,136; 209 swine, assessed at $1,447; 22,781 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $382,960; personal property, assessed at $84,966; total assessed value of all property, $467,926. The acreage devoted to the various crops in this township in 1908 was as follows: Wheat, 54; corn, 250; oats, 2,794; barley, 360; rye, 50; flaxseed, 25; potatoes, 90; hay, 2,665. It has one settlement, the village of Little Falls.

**Nels Fremstad,** a farmer of Black Brook township, was born in Norway, September 13, 1863, son of Ole and Carrie Fremstad, who came to America in 1882 and settled in this township on the farm where our subject still lives, the old folks now making their home with him. Nels received his education in the old country and then took up farming with his father, which he has since continued. He owns 200 acres of good land, 75 acres being under the plow. Upon this farm he carries on general farming, making a specialty of dairying. He is a stockholder in the Coöperative creamery at Clear Lake and winters as many as thirty head of cattle, five horses and fifty sheep. He does general farming and has met with great success, owing everything that he possesses to his hard work and industry. He was $320 in debt when he came here, but has since reached comfortable circumstances. Mr. Fremstad is a Republican in politics and has served on the side board of the township with much credit. He was married in 1888

to Carrie Horgan, by whom he has three children: Oscar, Melvin and Nora, all of whom are at home.

**Almon Ryder,** chairman of Black Brook township and one of the leading farmers of this locality, was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, in January, 1864, son of Willit and Maria Ryder, old settlers of Dane county. Almon was educated in the public schools of his native county and took up farming early in life. Later he moved to Martin county, Minnesota, where he farmed until 1903, in which year he came to Black Brook, Wis. He now owns 100 acres of land, part of which is under cultivation, and upon which he carries on general mixed farming. He has built his present fine home and made many improvements on the place. This is his second term as chairman of the township, and he has also served on the side board for two years and as school clerk three years. In Martin county, Minnesota, he held several township offices. At the present time he is secretary of Clear Lake creamery, which he helped to organize. Our subject was married, in 1890, to Mary A. Cripps, daughter of E. and Hulda Cripps, who settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, in 1843. By this union there are three children: Ralph, Earl and Grace, all at home and at school.

**C. M. Reed** is one of the earliest settlers of Black Brook township. When he came here with his father in 1864 there was not a white family living this side of Deer Park, the Reeds being among the earliest pioneers of this part of the country, the very first in what is now Black Brook township. Our subject was born in McKean county, Pennsylvania, January 25, 1852, son of John Reed. The family settled on a homestead in section 36, Black Brook township, when our subject was a lad of twelve years. In 1884 the father moved to St. Croix county, Wisconsin, and in 1908 moved to the town of Clear Lake, Wis., where he still lives. Of his family of eight children, six are still living. C. M. Reed received his education in a log cabin and has devoted a large part of his life to farming and lumbering. He has also shipped lumber, hay and grain and is still in the business of shipping hay and grain. He owns 300 acres of land, 150 acres of which is under the plow, all the land having been cleared by himself and his brothers. He has a well-improved place, upon which he carries on general farming. He is one of the representative citizens of Black Brook township and is highly esteemed and regarded in every way. Our subject was married in 1893 to Nettie Law, daughter of Columbus Law, of Pennsylvania, an old settler of the St. Croix valley. By this union there are three children: Hattie, Martin and Byron. Mr. Reed is a member of the Odd Fellows and the Good Templars.

## BONE LAKE TOWNSHIP.

The chairman of Bone Lake township is Jens Jensen; clerk, Nels P. Dueholm; treasurer, C. P. A. Jenssen; assessor, Jens C. Nielsen. There were in the township in 1908: 137 horses, assessed at $8,088; 801 neat cattle, assessed at $12,108; 248 sheep and lambs, assessed at $739; 68 swine, assessed at $395; 21,949 acres, assessed at $194,705; personal property, assessed at $29,305; total assessment of all property, with improvements, $224,010. The acreage devoted to the various crops in this township in 1908 was as follows: No wheat; corn, 187; oats, 321; barley, 40; hay, 496. The township has a number of small lakes and in the southern part a portion of Bone lake. It is well drained by rivers. There are three school houses within its borders, and its trading point is Dueholm.

## CLAM FALLS TOWNSHIP

Derives its name from the falls on Clam river. The surface is rolling and is watered by South Clam creek and its tributaries. Somers lake, in section 27, is the only lake. A dam for collecting tolls on saw logs was built just above the Falls. Good specimens of copper were found here in an early day. The township was organized November 15, 1876. The first town meeting was held April, 1877. The first supervisors were Daniel F. Smith, John Almquist and John Bjornson. D. F. Smith was the first settler, built the first sawmill and raised the first crops. He was born in New York state in 1813. In the township there are four schools. The chairman of Clam Falls township is Louis Sund; clerk, Thore Bjornsom; treasurer, Lars Johnson; assessor, Frank Jewell. There are in the township in 1908: 128 horses, assessed at $9,885; 614 neat cattle, assessed at $8,757; 2 mules and asses, assessed at $200; 97 sheep and lambs, assessed at $291; 71 swine, assessed at $365; 22,348.46 acres, assessed, including improvements, at $188,660; personal property, assessed at $36,339; total assessment, $234,061. Following was the acreage devoted to the different crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 95; corn, 62; oats, 148; barley, 24; rye, 4; potatoes, 20; hay, 780. It has one settlement, the village of Clam Falls.

CHAPTER L.

## POLK COUNTY.

**Clayton Township—Clear Lake Township—Clear Lake Village—Eureka Township—Farmington Township—Garfield Township—Georgetown Township—Johnstown Township.**

### CLAYTON TOWNSHIP

was organized November 10, 1875. It was set off from Black Brook. The surface of a great part of the town is level and was originally marshy, but the marshes have been drained and fine farms and hay meadows have taken their place. The first supervisors were Morris De Golier, Worthy Prentice and H. D. West. The first homestead entries were made in 1865 by Peter Bouchea and John McKay, both Indian traders.

The next settlers were Vandyke, Morehouse and Tanner about 1870. The first improvements were made by Elam Greeley in 1862, who dug a canal into Marsh lake to get water to float logs out of Beaver brook, thereby draining great tracts of swamp land. At this time the laying of the North Wisconsin railroad tracks gave a fresh impetus to business and conduced to building of the village of Clayton. The first sermon preached in the town was by Rev. W. W. Ames, a Baptist. The first school was taught by S. M. De Golier. The first store was opened by A. W. Wilcox in 1874. D. A. Humbird was the first postmaster. There are two railroads passing through the township. There are seven schools in the town. The chairman of Clayton township is J. C. Tanner; clerk, Christ Bergh; treasurer, C. J. Anderson; assessor, Edw. Hanson. There are in the township in 1908: 278 horses, assessed at $15,740; 1,578 neat cattle, assessed at $20,231; 227 sheep and lambs, assessed at $681; 37 swine, assessed at $178; 23,073.36 acres, assessed at, with improvements, $220,940; personal property, assessed at $62,111; total assessment, $282,151. Following was the acreage devoted to the different crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 36; corn, 109; oats, 633; barley, 102; rye, 6; potatoes, 48; hay, 1,860. It has three settlements, Clayton, Joel and Richardson.

**Reuben F. Little** was born in England, June 13, 1839. He served in the Civil war and came to Polk county, taking up a homestead in Lincoln in 1866.

**C. J. Anderson** was born in Sweden, February 15, 1874, son of Ole and Celia (Benson) Anderson, natives of Sweden, who came to the United States in 1883, settling at St. Paul, where the father worked for one year. They came to Clayton township, Wisconsin, in 1884, purchased a farm, carrying on general farming until the father's death in 1898. C. J. was the only child of his parents. He reveived a common school education and farmed until 1903, when he clerked in a general store for five months. He entered the railroad mail service and then worked in a bank, afterward beginning his present business as manager of the lumber yard at Clayton, Wis., for the Chrisler Everts Lumber Company. He still owns sixty acres of land adjoining the village of Clayton, and also owns some town lots. He affiliates with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen and the Good Templars. In 1908 our subject was married to Annie Selfus, daughter of George Selfus, of Galesburg, Kan. Mr. Anderson is a shrewd business man, honest and upright in all his dealings. He has always proven worthy of the trust that has been reposed in him, and is highly regarded by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

**E. D. Ellis,** now living a retired life at Richardson, Wis., was born in New York state, Genessee county, March 8, 1845, son of Nathan and Susan Ellis, farmers of New York state. The subject of this sketch came west in 1868 and in 1880 located in Clayton township, Polk county, Wisconsin, being employed six years as engineer for the Omaha railroad. In 1884 he established a general store at Richardson, Wis., which he continued to run for many years. He established a reputation for honor and fair dealing and built up a large trade. In 1903 he retired, turning the management of the store over to his wife's son, R. C. Mooney, who now owns and runs the establishment. He was married in 1884 to Mrs. Francis Mooney, who had lived many years in Polk county. Mr. Ellis has no children, but raised three of his wife's children and adopted two others: Albert, Richard, Edward, Helen and Ellis C. Mr. Ellis is a Democrat in politics, but has never sought public office. He owns 200 acres of land and resides in the village of Richardson in a fine house which is his own property. He has dealt more or less in real estate and at one time owned as high as 1,200 acres of good land. He is one of the solid and substantial citizens of the township, and although a quiet man who has never cared to participate actively in public affairs, has assisted in the progress of the county.

**Theo Erickson** is a native of Carver, Minn., born November 3, 1866, son of Arne and Mary (Thompson) Erickson, of Norway. His parents located in Minnesota in 1851 and took up farming. The father now makes his home with the subject of this sketch,

and the mother died in 1901. Our subject was educated in the schools of Glencoe, Minn., after which he farmed for some years and then carried on the commission business for two years. In 1901 he came to Clayton, Wis., and opened a general store, which he has since continued, his being the second general store to be established in the place. He does a large business and commands the trade of the country people for miles away. His honest dealings have won the confidence and respect of the people. The postoffice is located in his store and for some years he has been postmaster, giving general satisfaction. Mr. Erickson is a Republican in politics and has been justice of the peace. His business has grown so that he keeps three clerks employed all the time and in the rush seasons has still more than this. Our subject was married in 1901 to Hulda Johnson, daughter of John Johnson, of Carver, Minn. By this union there are four children: Chester, Luella, Clarence and Lloyd. The family religion is that of the Swedish Lutheran church.

**Charles Lundstrom,** manager and secretary of the Clayton Coöperative Creamery Company, is a native of Sweden, born January 26, 1850, son of Bent and Pernella Lundstrom, of that country. Charles emigrated to Germany in 1869, went back to Sweden in 1874 and came to the United States in 1875 and settled in Wilkes Barre, Luzerne county, Pa., working in the coal mines for five years. In 1880 he came to Polk county, and June 25 of that year settled in Clayton township, worked a year with the Humbard Lumber Company and then purchased forty acres of land, to which he has added until he now owns 103 acres, fifty acres being under the plow. Mr. Lindstrom has made many improvements on the place and has a nice farm. From the first he has made a specialty of dairying and has for ten years delivered milk to the home creamery, also doing a general mixed farming. A Republican in politics, he has been supervisor of the town six years, chairman four years, treasurer two years and school officer for many terms. Mr. Lindstrom was married in 1876 to Mary C. Johnson, the wedding being performed in Pennsylvania. This union has resulted in six children: Sadrick (deceased), Betsy, John, Manda (deceased), Eureka and Anna. Our subject is an honest, hard-working man, and richly deserves the success that he has achieved. He has helped to build up the creamery in a commendable manner and is always interested in everything that tends to the betterment of the business interests of the township.

**J. S. Malchow** is a native of Jackson county, Minnesota, born January 9, 1884, son of Charles and Christina Kilen Malchow. The father was born in Germany near the Rhine river, and came to Wisconsin in the early days, settling in this state, and enlisted in the Fiftieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving in the Civil

war. Later he went to Minnesota, homesteaded land, and has since continued to remain there, being secretary of the Mutual Insurance Company and vice-president of the State Bank of Wilder, Minn. Our subject was educated in the schools of Wilder, Minn., and in the Episcopal College, W. S. Pond, rector, graduating in 1904. He then engaged in the banking business, which he has since followed. He kept books for the Bank of Wilder during his school days and then in Slayton, Minn., until June 1, 1905. After two months in Minneapolis he returned to Wilder, then went to North Dakota for the Union Investment Company, of Minneapolis, spending one-half year at Sarles, in that state. In 1906 he returned to Wilder again and worked in the bank until 1907, when he came to Clayton and organized the Citizens' State Bank, of Clayton, Wis., since which time he has served as its cashier. He sold the stock and had full charge of the organization. The bank has a paid in capital of $10,000. Its president is Fred Malchow, of Lake Field, Minn., a land and mill owner and well-known stockman. Our subject votes the Republican ticket and belongs to the Modern Woodmen. He is up-to-date, public spirited and progressive, a fine type of a young business man. Mr. Malchow was married, January 13, 1906, to Louise Dressen, of Lake City, Minn., by whom he has two children: Flora and Charlotte.

**Gust Paulson** was born in Sweden, May 21, 1854, son of Paul Falk and Johanna Paulson, the former of whom came to this country and lived with his son, and the latter of whom died in Sweden. Gust came to the United States in 1875 and worked in the Pennsylvania coal mines a short time, after which he went to New York state and worked on a farm, then returning to the mines in Pennsylvania, where he remained for four years, subsequently coming to Clayton township, Polk county, and spending two years grading on the Omaha railroad. After this he worked in the sawmills for two years, in the meantime buying land upon which he started farming. He at once began to clear the land, erecting a log cabin and making other improvements. He has sold 180 acres of his farm and now has 100 acres of good land which he has improved and where he now carries on general farming. Mr. Paulson has dealt considerably in real estate and at one time owned as many as 1,500 acres, which he held for speculative purposes. In politics he is a Republican; has served as supervisor of the township, and was chairman of Clayton township six years. He owns stock in the Farmers & Merchants' Bank of Amery, Wis., and the People's State Bank of Clear Lake. In all his undertakings he has been successful and his efforts have assisted in the development of the township and vicinity. Mr. Paulson was married in 1879 to Carrie Knutson, whose par-

ents came from Norway to Dane county, Wisconsin, and later to Polk county, Wisconsin, where the father died. The mother is still living, making her home with her son. Mr. and Mrs. Paulson have twelve children: Bertha, Clara, Augusta, Lena, Hanna, Selma, Anna, Dewey, Mabel, Harry, Esther and Lindsay. The family religion is that of the Swedish Missionary church.

## CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP.

Clear Lake derives its name from a beautiful clear lake on the western boundary near Clear Lake village. At one time the western part of the township was principally timbered with hardwood. It is now covered with prosperous farms. The eastern part is more diversified. Willow river runs through the town. The Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad runs through the northwestern part of the township. Clear Lake was organized June 20, 1877. S. D. Mann, J. C. Gates and W. R. Ingalls, supervisors; John Hale, L. P. Nash, S. D. Starkweather and Perry Clark were its first settlers. First postmaster, Lawrence O'Connor. Mr. Starkweather carried the mail on foot for many years. In 1875 Israel Graves built the first sawmill in Clear Lake village, also the first house. The lumber in early days was delivered to the railway at the village by a wooden tramway. In 1856 the government sold the lots for the village to A. Boody and A. Coventry. The plat was made by Symme, Glover & Co. The survey by G. W. Cooley. The first school house was built in 1875, Clara Davis being the first teacher. The township has now six fine school buildings and a number of places of worship. A. Symme & Co. were the first merchants. P. Gates, M. D., the first practicing physician. F. M. Nye the first lawyer. The first child born was Charles W. Whitcomb. The chairman of Clear Lake township is J. R. Pierson; clerk, Charles F. Kennetz; treasurer, Charles Clark; assessor, William Martin. There are in the township in 1908: 293 horses, assessed at $17,860; 1,891 neat cattle, assessed at $31,005; 625 sheep and lambs, assessed at $1,590; 101 swine, assessed at $695; 2 mules and asses, assessed at $300; 21,894.22 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $224,199; personal property, assessed at $56,675; total assessment, $280,874. There was the following acreage devoted to the various crops in 1908: Oats, 428; barley, 135; rye, 3; hay, 1,607. It has two settlements, Clear Lake and Pineville.

**D. A. Church,** one of the successful men of Clear Lake, Wis., was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, May 29, 1845, son of Daniel and Isabelle (Lindsay) Church, the former of whom was a merchant at Prospect, Wis., for the last twenty years of his life. D. A. was educated in the public schools of Prospect and when still considerably under age enlisted in 1862 in Company B,

Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving in the Army of the West. He took part in all the battles and campaigns of that army, spending the latter months of his service in Texas. After the close of the war he spent six years in Iowa farming and came to Clear Lake in 1878. The land about here was all woods at that time, and Mr. Church has seen the territory grow from a dense forest to a thriving farming community. Upon coming to this part of the state he engaged in wagon making and carpenter work, that being his trade. Since that time he has continued in the same business. He was president of Clear Lake several years and has occupied practically all the town and school offices at various times. He is a Republican in politics and has been very successful in all his undertakings. The family residence is well situated and well furnished. Mr. Church affiliates with the Masons. He was married, January 5, 1867, to Rosaltha Peck, of Waukesha county, Wisconsin, daughter of Rufus and Almeda Peck. To this union one child was born, Elwyn E., assistant postmaster at Clear Lake village.

**W. H. Francis** is a native of Rock county, this state, born May 17, 1857, son of Elija and Eleanor Francis. The father was a New Yorker, came to Rock county in the early days and was a farmer all his life with the exception of a few years in his younger days, when he was a merchant. He died in 1899, and his wife passed away in 1898. Our subject was educated in the district schools of the state, coming to Warren township, St. Croix county, with his parents. After leaving school he farmed until 1879, when he came to Polk county and purchased a farm in Clear Lake township, adjoining his present place. He then sold out and bought his present farm of 130 acres. He cleared and broke the land and now has 110 acres under the plow. His farm is an excellent one, and agricultural operations have proved for him a profitable venture. He does general farming and some dairying and stock raising. His politics are those of the Republican party, and his fraternities are the Maccabees and the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Francis was married to Mary Larson, who died in 1894. This union resulted in six children: Maude E., Charles H., Frank F., Burton, Josephine (deceased) and Gertrude.

**L. L. Hawkins,** a progressive and prosperous citizen of Clear Lake, Wis., was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, April 13, 1848, son of Lorenzo and Catherine (Austin) Hawkins, the former of whom died in Pennsylvania and the latter in New York. They were the parents of six children: Albert, L. L., Lorenzo, Frank (deceased), Florence and Herman, the latter also deceased. Albert Hawkins served in the Ninetieth New York Volunteer Infantry in the Civil war. The subject of this sketch

was educated in the public schools of Pennsylvania and New York states, afterward working in the woods, also in the coal mines of McKean county. In 1873 he located in Lincoln township, taking up a homestead. He cleared and broke the land, erecting first a log cabin and later a log house. In 1907 he sold this place and removed to Clear Lake, Wis. In 1901 he had purchased 120 acres in Black Brook, Wis., and later he added seventy acres in Clear Lake, which his brother, Lorenzo, had homesteaded years before in 1874, afterward returning to Pennsylvania. The subject of this sketch has been a worker in timber woods for some thirty winters. For the past fifteen years he has dealt more or less in real estate, but at the present time has retired from the more active duties of business. Aside from his real estate holdings, he is a stockholder in the Clear Lake Coöperative creamery, which does a large business. He is independent in politics and has served on the board of supervisors. He is also a stockholder in the Polk County Coöperative Company, which has its headquarters at Amery, Wis. This company sold over $95,000 worth of goods in the course of a certain four months, showing the success that it has enjoyed. Mr. Hawkins has many memories of pioneer days. He has been quite a hunter and has killed over 300 deer in the course of his career. He has also killed other wild game. Our subject was married, in July, 1868, to Lydia Rodgers, of Bradford, Pa., by whom he has three sons: Clarence, Raymond and Herman. Mr. Hawkins spent part of two years of his life in the Alleghany oil field. He was pumping oil on the Steel farm in 1868. There were no pipe lines in those days. The Steel farm was the great oil property that John Steel (called "Coal Oil Johnny") inherited from his mother, valued at nearly $2,000,000, and which he squandered in less than two years and then went to work by the month at Rauseville in the freight office just across the oil creek from the great oil farm he had owned.

**Joseph Holmes** is a native of Washington county, Minnesota, born May 21, 1863, son of C. G. Holmes, a farmer and carpenter in Afton township, that county.

Joseph was educated in the common schools and in the St. Croix Falls Academy at Afton. He then learned the carpenter's trade with his father and continued in the business until appointed government mechanic at Fort A. Lincoln, North Dakota. After a period of work there he accepted a similar position at Fort Snelling, continuing for fourteen years. In 1897 he came to Polk county, located in Clear Lake township, built a general store at Pineville, continuing the business until the present time. In addition to the mercantile business, Mr. Holmes owns forty acres near his store, all under cultivation. Mr. Holmes is a Re-

publican in politics; has been chairman of Clear Lake township and officer of the school board, and for several years was justice of the peace. Fraternally he is a Mason. Mr. Holmes was married in 1888 to Carrie C. Luerssen, daughter of Herman Luerssen, a native of Germany, who emigrated to Pennsylvania and was army steward until his death at Fort Snelling in 1895. This union has been blessed with four children: Joseph H., Lincoln C., Rose L. and Marie O.

**J. N. Paulson** is a native of Sweden, born May 19, 1875, son of N. P. and Gunilla (Olson) Paulson, who came to the United States in 1879 and located in Clayton, Wis., the father going to work on the railroad. A short while afterward he took up farming, at which he has since continued. J. N. was educated in the public schools of Polk county and worked in the woods for ten winters. He started without a cent and, though handicapped by considerable illness, has achieved success. He now owns seventy acres of good land in Clear Lake township, Wisconsin, thirty-five acres being under the plow. General farming occupies his attention, and a special feature is made of dairying, our subject being treasurer of the Farmers' Creamery Company, of Clear Lake. Of this company he was one of the organizers and sold a portion of its stock. He is also a stockholder himself. Mr. Paulson is independent in politics and has served as school clerk for five years. His religion is that of the Swedish Lutheran church. Mr. Paulson was married in 1900 to Hanna Grant, daughter of Andrew and Gusta Grant, by whom he has four children: Gladys, Clifford, Agnes and Violet, all living in Wisconsin.

**J. R. Peirson** was born on Long Island, in the state of New York, September 19, 1835, son of Robert and Mary A. (Cross) Peirson, who came to Polk county in 1880 and settled on a farm, where the father lived until 1898. J. R. received a common school education and has followed farming and carpentering since early manhood. Of this he has made a great success and is now regarded as one of the leading citizens of Clear Lake township. He owns 100 acres of good land, fifty of which are in a high stage of cultivation. He carries on general farming, making a specialty of stock raising and dairying. His own home is pretty and well furnished, and in addition he owns eighty acres in Burnett county. He has built houses and barns all over the county and is well known throughout the valley. He is skilled in his trade, honest in his dealings and affable in his manners, making him a great favorite wherever he is known. He votes the Republican ticket, and at the present time is chairman of Clear Lake township, in which capacity he has given great satisfaction. At

one time he was a member of the Odd Fellows. Our subject was married, in 1864, to Janet McDonell, by whom he has had eleven children: Emanda, John, Anna, Henrietta, Jane, William, Robert, Charles, Milton, George and Chester, all of whom are alive and are well liked by all who know them.

**N. G. Rogers,** son of N. F. and Samantha (Pratt) Rogers, was born in New York state, February 2, 1851. His mother died while he was quite young, and his father settled in Minnesota, working at saw and flour milling until his death, May 21, 1907. Our subject was educated in his native state and learned the sawsetter's trade, following same for ten years. He followed farming in Minnesota for a short time and in 1886 moved to Superior, Wis., engaging in the dairy business, dealing especially in milk. After six years there he came to Polk county and bought 170 acres of land, upon which he still resides. General farming occupies his attention, and he makes a specialty of shipping milk. This farm, which has been improved, has 100 acres of cultivated land in Clear Lake township. A Republican in politics, Mr. Rogers has never looked for public office, but chooses rather to devote his attention to his family and his home and farming interests. He was married in 1880 to Mary E. Perry, daughter of Wellington Perry, of New York state. Mrs. Rogers' grandfather was a farmer and one of the early settlers of Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Rogers have ten children: Orin; Blanche, married to Ole Oleson; Nellie, married to Ross Bidney; Edna, Susie, Hazel, Ruth, Dewey, Percy and Pearl. The younger ones are at home, and the family is one of which the parents are justly proud.

**A. J. Nelson** is a native of Sweden, born June 2, 1860, son of Lorentz and J. B. (Anderson) Nelson, the former of whom is dead, the latter still living in Sweden. A. J. came to the United States in 1884, settled first in Denver, Col., and engaged as section boss on the railroad. In 1892 he came to Clear Lake township and bought 160 acres of land. Although he has been here but comparatively a short time, he has cleared seventy acres and put them under the plow. He has erected buildings and made general improvements, now carrying on general farming. In politics our subject is a Republican, but he votes for the best man in county and local affairs. He has served on the town and school board and has been treasurer of the township of Clear Lake for a considerable period. He affiliates with the Masons. Mr. Nelson was married in 1885 to A. J. Christianson, by whom he had ten children, eight of whom are now living: Charles, Belle D., Hulda, Arthur, Selma (deceased), Mamie, Florence, Sidney, Mildred and an infant (deceased).

## CLEAR LAKE VILLAGE.

Clear Lake village has a population of 508. The village boasts of a bank, known as the Bank of Clear Lake, with a capital of $15,000, and a surplus of $2,600; two churches and a public graded school; one hotel straight and another with a restaurant attachment; five general stores; one steam fitter; one wagon maker; a newspaper; two grocery stores; Farmers' Creamery Company; three saloons; one meat market; a branch of the New Richmond Roller Mills Company; one tinner; one lumber dealer; one confectionery and restaurant; telephone exchange; a hardware store; one drug store, and one dealer in agricultural implements.

**B. F. Briggs,** who has the distinction of having been one of the members of the First United States Lancers in the Civil war, was born in Pennsylvania, February 23, 1839, son of Palmer and Dorothea (Camp) Briggs, who came to St. Croix county, Wisconsin, and settled near Jewetts one year, afterward moving to Star Prairie and farming. The father passed away in Star Prairie and the mother died in Albany, Ore. Our subject was educated in the common schools and farmed in Star Prairie, Wis., thirty-three years. When the Civil war broke out he enlisted in Company G of the First United States Lancers, and when this company was disbanded he enlisted, August 13, 1862, in Company A, Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving three years in the Army of the Tennessee. After the war he farmed in Star Prairie township until 1900, when he came to Clear Lake, Wis., where he has since resided, owning one acre of desirable land inside the city limits. He is a Republican in politics and has served in school office and as a justice of the peace. Mr. Briggs was first married to Minnie L. Sweet, of Milton, Wis., who died in 1895, and the second time he married Anna Whipp, for twenty years a teacher in the public schools of Pierce county, Wisconsin, including five years in the schools of River Falls. Her father, J. P. Whipp, was born in Kentucky, August 31, 1819, and settled in Dodge county, Wisconsin, in the early forties. He was a carpenter by trade, came to Pierce county, Wisconsin, in 1865, and built bridges, school houses, the court house and the like, many buildings still being a monument to his excellent work. He died August 13, 1890, and his wife, Phœbe O'Connor, died in Pierce county, Wisconsin, in 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Briggs were blessed with one child, Inez, who is still at home.

**Dr. M. P. Goodwin,** of Clear Lake, Wis., was born in St. Louis county, New York state, November 23, 1838. His father, Jeremiah Goodwin, married Lucettia Reynolds, was born in Canada, and took up the clothing business. In 1847 he located in Chicago

and later drove an ox team and thirty head of cattle to Waushara county, Wisconsin, where he located, passing away December 24, 1861. Our subject was educated in the common schools and for six years was a cabinet maker. While attending school in Waushara county he had to walk four miles to the school house, passing through wild country frequented by Indians. Later he attended school in Chicago, and while foreman of a cabinet shop in Horicon, Wis., he began to study dentistry. After completing this course he took up the practice of dentistry, both at Hudson, Wis., and Eau Claire, Wis., also at Trenton, Mo., and in Texas. In the meantime he took up the study of medicine and surgery. During the six years that he was at Hudson he studied medicine with Drs. Hoyt, King and Johnson. In 1878 he entered the Rush Medical College at Chicago, Ill., graduating in 1880. Two years before this, in 1878, he had taken up the practice of medicine in vacation time. Upon graduating he spent a short time longer at Hudson, Wis., then to St. Croix Falls, Wis., and then Stillwater, Minn., practicing both dentistry and medicine. In 1881 he came to Clear Lake, where he has since followed both professions, largely that of dentistry. In addition to the study mentioned, Dr. Goodwin has taken courses in the University of Minneapolis and in New York. In the latter city he took a polyclinic course, in 1904 a similar course in Chicago and in 1905 he reviewed dentistry. In 1864 he enlisted in the First Wisconsin Heavy Artillery and served one year. For three years he was pension examiner and for six years special examiner, being also an examiner for several life insurance companies. For over forty years Dr. Goodwin has been an Odd Fellow, and is now also an old member of the Knights of Pythias. He was married, in 1875, to Sarah W. Norton, by whom he has one child, Eugene, a printer by trade.

**A. A. Holliday,** son of William and Betsy (Eastwood) Holliday, was born in Charlestown, Calumet county, Wis., March 12, 1860. His parents came from New York state to Calumet county, Wisconsin, in 1850, and continued to reside there until the time of their deaths. Our subject received his education in Wisconsin and farmed for a period. From 1883 to 1894 he lived in the town of Loyal, Clark county, Wis., and in 1894 came to Clear Lake, Wis., and established his present hardware store. At that time he also started the furniture business, but later sold that department, retaining the hardware. He built a store and has now the finest hardware establishment in Clear Lake, the store being one which would do credit to many a large city; the store is kept clean and tastefully arranged, making an up-to-date business house in every particular. Mr. Holliday himself is an excellent salesman, and he has attracted trade for many miles

around. He owns the store, a residence in the village and some fine farm land. The subject of this sketch is a Republican in politics and is a successful and public-spirited man. He belongs to the Masons. Mr. Holliday was married in 1898 to Emma Gillette, whose parents came of an old Pennsylvania family.

**W. R. Ingalls** is a native of New York state, born December 5, 1839, son of Edmond and Charlotte Ingalls. The father was a cooper in early life and later became a farmer. He came west in 1849 and located in Jefferson county, where he continued farming. When he came here there were no railroads in the state, and the tide of immigration had not yet started. He was a true pioneer—one of those who blazed the way for the prosperity which has followed. Mr. Ingalls was educated in a log cabin school house and upon leaving school went to war, enlisting in Company B, Seventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, becoming a part of the famous old Iron Brigade. He was with the Army of the Potomac and was wounded at South Mountain in 1862 and again in the battle of the Wilderness, May 5, 1864. Until his wound he served in all the battles in which his company participated. After being mustered out, July 20, 1865, he went to southern Minnesota and stayed four years, then mined in southern California and Utah for five years. In 1874 he came to Wisconsin, settled at Unity, and after a short time there in 1877 came to Clear Lake, Wis., where he has since resided. Upon coming here he engaged in the mercantile business, in which he afterward continued until 1904. September 9, 1888, a cyclone destroyed his building and stock of goods, the whole loss being about $20,000. Two clerks in the store were killed and the town was practically wiped out. After the storm the store was rebuilt and restocked. For five years Mr. Ingalls was interested in the logging and lumbering business. He owns property in other states and in Clear Lake, Wis. A Republican in politics, he has held village office and at one time was chairman of the township. He was once an Odd Fellow and is now a Mason and a member of the G. A. R. Mr. Ingalls was married in 1865 to Fannie Manning, by whom he has two children: Nettie, now Mrs. Van Patten, of Montana, and Ed C., a traveling salesman for the J. H. Allen wholesale grocery house, of St. Paul. Mr. Ingalls has been successful in all his undertakings and is a good citizen in every respect.

**J. D. Kippen,** the oldest living settler of the village of Clear Lake, Wis., was born in Milton, Halton county, near Toronto, Canada, October 31, 1840, son of Daniel and Mary (Duff) Kippen, natives of Perthshire, Scotland. J. D. located in Stillwater, Minn., in August, 1863, working on the river and in the woods, later engaging in the sawmill business for four years, after

which he and his brother bought a sawmill at Lakeland, Minn., which they ran for seven years. They lost this property during the panic of 1873, after which Mr. Kippen came to Polk county and in 1874 located where Clear Lake is now situated, engaging as a sawyer for Israel Graves. After this he ran an engine for a stave factory for six years. He then bought a farm inside the city limits of Clear Lake, improved it, and has since continued to make his home here, having lived in the village since 1874. When Mr. Kippen came here there was only one building, and that a shanty, in what is now Clear Lake. He has been interested in the growth of this section and has assisted in its progress in many ways. Upon his sixty acres of farm land he does general farming, making a specialty of selling milk to the creamery. He also cuts 100 tons of hay, that being the amount he cut this year. Our subject was married, in September, 1873, to Sarah A. Swartwood, of Faribault, Minn., by whom he had one child, who died in infancy. They accordingly adopted a daughter, Mamie B., now wife of E. E. Husband, editor of the "Polk County Ledger," at Balsam Lake, Wis. Mrs. Kippen died, July 20, 1905. Mr. Kippen is a Republican in politics and has served on the town board for four years.

**I. N. Knight**, one of the prominent men of Clear Lake village, was born in Canada, July 26, 1845, son of John and Mary (Adams) Knight, both of whom were born in the United States in New York state, the father, however, owning extensive lumber interests in Canada. Some time after the birth of our subject the father returned to New York state, worked at carpentering and farming and in 1868 located in Iowa. In 1875 he took up his residence in St. Croix county, Wisconsin, both he and his wife dying while making their home with their son. I. N. also lived in Iowa for a time, then located in St. Croix county, Wisconsin, engaging in lumber operations on the Willow river, also owning a farm and running it. In 1890 he came to Clear Lake township and conducted a lumber yard, that being the only one in Clear Lake township at that time. After six years he retired from active business. He now owns several pieces of village property in Clear Lake. Mr. Knight enlisted in August of 1862 in Company C, 112th New York Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. After being in service seven months he was put in detached service with the Seventh Massachusetts Battery and saw service all over the Southern states. He was in the battles of Mobile and Suffolk and went up the Red river with General Banks and hunted bushwhackers all over Arkansas, Alabama, Tennessee and Louisiana. He was mustered out in August, 1865. A Republican in politics, Mr. Knight was a justice of the peace for many years and has been village treasurer nearly all

the time since the village was organized, having been a member of the first village council of Clear Lake. He has been notary public and for the past ten years has been a member of the soldiers' relief commission of this county, being also a prominent G. A. R. man. Our subject was married, March 11, 1866, to Ellen F. Howe, by whom he had three children: May (deceased), Cora (deceased) and Ernest L., married to May Church. He is employed with the Rapid Transit Company of Minneapolis. In fraternal affiliation Mr. Knight is a member of the Maccabees. He has been for many years regarded as a leader in public events.

**F. A. Partlow.** Some years ago a young telegraph operator, a native of Clinton county, Michigan, while on a hunting trip in the St. Croix valley saw its possibilities as a future agricultural and commercial as well as an agricultural center, and from that date began to acquire all the land he could in Polk and Barron counties, which were then being opened up. He has seen the country surrounding and including his native county develop, as it were, in a day, and had seen farmers who had the foresight to acquire land become well-to-do almost over night by the rise in land. He foresaw the same thing for Polk and Barron counties, and his faith has been justified, as these two counties are now enjoying an industrial boom and will enjoy a still greater one when the new waterway is cut from the Great Lakes to the St. Croix river and that river becomes one of the great national highways of commerce. This man was F. A. Partlow, now president of the bank at Clear Lake, Wis. He was born in Clinton county, Michigan, April 17, 1865, son of Almond and Mary Blake Partlow, the former of whom died in 1903 and the latter in 1879. Our subject was educated in the high school at Grand Ledge, Mich., and became a telegraph operator, following this occupation for ten years, mostly on the Omaha railroad. While an operator he began to acquire land in this county and subsequently for nine years he engaged in the hardware business at Turtle Lake, Wis. In 1901 he established a private bank at Clear Lake, and in 1903 this became a state bank, the capital being increased from $5,000 to $15,000. Of this bank Mr. Partlow has been president since its organization. The institution now has $78,000 deposits and $3,000 surplus. Since 1896 Mr. Partlow has been a Democrat. He has run for congress and for the state assembly on the Democratic ticket. For many years he has served on the boards of Barron and Polk counties. His fraternal affiliations include the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Partlow was married in 1902 to Mattie E. Sanford, daughter of W. F. Sanford, of Barron county. This union has been blessed with three children: Merle Bryan, Fay Alice and Clover M.

**A. J. McLennan** was born in Canada, May, 1858, son of J. F.

McLennan, of Canada, who came to Clear Lake, Wis., in 1875 and was identified with the stave business, which at that time was very important, the lumber boom being at its height. J. F. McLennan died in Clear Lake township and his wife still survives, making her home with her son. A. F. McLennan received his education in the common schools and early engaged in the cooper business, making flour barrels, contracting, etc., also dealing in lumber in the early days of the "Soo" road. He now owns a fine farm outside of the village limits of Clear Lake. Upon this farm he carries on a large dairy business and also deals in stock, mostly shorthorns, although he has some Holsteins. His barn has a cement floor and is supplied with running water. A silo also adds to the equipment of the place. Mr. McLennan has been in the creamery business for ten years and owns large interests in five creameries run under the name of the Montanye & McLennan Creamery Company. He established a bank at Clear Lake and in many other ways has contributed to the growth and prosperity of the town and village. Mr. McLennan married, in 1894, Mary Wagoner, of Chippewa, Wis., whose father, John Wagoner, is a farmer there. This union has resulted in one child, David, who is at home.

**J. B. Sanford,** a veteran of the Civil war and one of the well-known citizens of Clear Lake township, was born in Illinois, son of E. B. and Mary Sanford. The mother died in Illinois in 1860 and the father then enlisted in the Union army, serving in the Fifty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry from 1861 until the close of the war. He died in Missouri at the age of seventy-eight years. J. B. was educated in Illinois, but has acquired the greater part of his present education by reading. He has devoted practically all of his life to farming. He followed his father's example and enlisted in the Union army, serving for eleven months in Company F, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He then re-enlisted in Company G. Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. He was in the Army of Tennessee under Gen. U. S. Grant and did scout duty in the Western army until February, 1866. In 1871 he came to Pepin, Pepin county, Wis., where he remained until 1875, removing then to Barron county and homesteading a piece of land on Hays river, where he lived nine years. He then sold out and located in Black Brook township, Polk county, bought a farm and improved it, living there until 1907, when he came to Clear Lake and bought two acres on the outskirts of the village, where he now lives. He has done general farming and stock raising and in the course of his career has broken and improved three farms. At one time he was a stockholder in the Clear Lake creamery. Mr. Sanford was married in 1869 to Sarah Carter, daughter of Benjamin

Carter, a native of Maine. To this union were born five children: Charles, a clerk in the state of Washington; Mary, married to Oscar Swift, of Madalin Isle, in Lake Superior; Lulu, married to James Desare, of Colville, Wash.; Benjamin, who lives in the same place, and Beatrice, now Mrs. Burrill, living on the old homestead. Mr. Sanford has been school treasurer sixteen years, a member of the town board and a justice of the peace. He belongs to the G. A. R. and is a highly respected citizen.

**B. F. Starkweather,** local agent of the Chisago Lake Marble & Granite Works, is a native of Clear Lake township, having been born here, December 31, 1870, son of S. D. and Mary E. (Danforth) Starkweather, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Massachusetts. The father came to St. Croix county, Wisconsin, before the war, enlisted in the Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving until the close of the war, after which he came to Polk county, where he since resided on some land which he homesteaded about half a mile out of Clear Lake village. B. F. Starkweather was educated in the common schools of Polk county and then took up the cooper's trade, which he followed for twelve years, after which he took up the lumber business eight years ago. He is now manager for the F. L. Olcott Lumber Company at Clear Lake. Before taking his present position he worked in a sawmill in Clear Lake for two years. Aside from his lumber work Mr. Starkweather is a chicken fancier, owning a large chicken ranch, making a specialty of single-comb brown Leghorns and Barred Plymouth Rocks, all full bloods. The ranch consists of five acres of land adjoining the town, and our subject raises from 500 to 1,000 chickens yearly. His place is well kept and he owns a pleasant home. Mr. Starkweather is a Democrat in politics and, although interested in public affairs, has never sought public office. He was married, in July, 1893, to Lavina Bacon, daughter of Ira and Maria (Hurd) Bacon, old settlers of this valley.

**Thomas Stout** first saw the light of day in Hudson, Wis., January 31, 1863, son of Thomas and Margaret Stout. The father came to Hudson, Wis., before the war and served as chief of police in that city, afterward enlisting in the Civil war. He ran a hotel in Hudson for a time and in 1876 came to Clear Lake, Wis., and engaged in the hotel business here until his death, January 24, 1890. His wife is still living and makes her home in Clear Lake. Thomas began his education in Hudson and continued it in Clear Lake. He spent ten years in the shingle mill at New Richmond, Wis., and in 1884 engaged in the mercantile business at Clear Lake, in which he has since continued. He now owns one of the leading stores of the place and has a good trade. The postoffice is located in his store and Mr. Stout has been the post-

master since July, 1897. A Republican in politics, he has served as a member of the town board and supervisor for several years. The Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen constitute his fraternal affiliations. Thomas Stout was married, December 5, 1894, to Maude Vinson, daughter of S. R. Vinson, who came to Deer Park, Wis., from Indiana and was railroad agent until the time of his death. Two children brighten the Stout home: Kenneth and Jamie. Mr. Stout is well informed on the topics of the day and is a good business man, noted for his fair dealing and honesty.

## EUREKA TOWNSHIP.

Eureka embraces township 35, range 18, and a small part of range 19. The west is somewhat broken by the St. Croix bluffs. The remainder is undulating and capable of agricultural improvements, and there are a number of fine farms in this town, and a few small lakes in the eastern part. Eureka was at one time part of St. Croix Falls, but was organized as a separate township, December 16, 1877. Lucius A. Harper, Jens Welling and William Booth were the first supervisors. L. A. Harper, John C. Beede and Henry Cole were among its first settlers. As early as the thirties J. R. Brown had a trading house at the mouth of Wolf creek, in the extreme northwestern section of the town, and Louis Roberts one in the forties. At this place in 1849 Alexander Livingston, a trader, was killed by the Indians. Livingston had built him a comfortable home, which he made a stopping place for the weary traveler.

In 1855 Carma P. Garlick surveyed a quarter section here and laid it off into town lots. Charles Nevers settled here about 1860 and has now a fine farm and good buildings. The township has now seven fine school buildings and many other public ones, and a number of churches. The chairman of Eureka township is S. C. Pomeroy; clerk, A. C. Hoover; treasurer, Carl Anderson; assessor, Henry Peterson. There are in the township in 1908: 490 horses, assessed at $34,780; 2,750 neat cattle, assessed at $40,131; 2 mules, assessed at $130; 426 sheep and lambs, assessed at $1,278; 496 swine, assessed at $2,552; 34,864.47 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $481,260; personal property, assessed at $146,853; total assessment, $628,113. Following was the acreage devoted to the various crops in 1908: Wheat, 347; corn, 914; oats, 2,746; barley, 620; rye, 27; flaxseed, 15; potatoes, 116; hay, 2,437; growing timber, 12,289. There are three hamlets, Wolf Creek, North Valley and Jenson. Wolf Creek has two general stores, a flour mill and a blacksmith shop.

**John R. Brown,** now deceased, was a man of rugged honesty and unswerving integrity. He was a hard working and industrious gentleman and left behind him the sincere respect of

all who knew him and the love and affection of a large family of children. Mr. Brown was born in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, November 17, 1851, son of John and Elizabeth (Green) Brown, natives of Pennsylvania, who lived and died in that state. John R. received his education in the public schools of Pennsylvania and then came westward to Osceola, Wis., in 1879, buying 120 acres, upon which he lived two years. He then came to Eureka township and purchased sixty-three acres, adding thereto until he owned 180 acres, which he partly broke and improved, carrying on general farming with considerable success. He was also a dealer in live stock. Mr. Brown was an independent voter and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He affiliated with the Odd Fellows, and his public service included several terms as school clerk and school treasurer. Mr. Brown passed away November 1, 1901. He was married March 27, 1881, to Emma Thomas, daughter of George W. and Rachel (Loudy) Thomas, natives respectively of Indiana and Ohio. To this union were born eleven children: Mrs. Gertrude Neuman, of North St. Paul, Minn.; Mrs. Aura Lathrop, of St. Paul, Minn.; Mrs. Mabel Marelius, of St. Paul; Grover, of West Hope, N. Dak.; Mrs. Hazel Watts, of St. Croix Falls, Wis.; Mrs. Laura Hake, of Douglas, N. D.; Charlotte, Luella, George, Harold and Ruth, of St. Croix Falls. All the children are living.

## FARMINGTON TOWNSHIP.

Farmington was organized as a town in 1858. It contains forty-two sections of land in township 32, ranges 18 and 19. Its western portion, along the St. Croix, has the picturesque bluffs so common to that river, with some unusually beautiful cascades, falls and hillside springs, of which the most notable are the well known mineral spring and the springs at the lime kiln. The mineral spring is situated on the St. Croix river, at the base of the bluff and about one mile and a half below Osceola. In 1876 there was a beautiful hotel built on the cliff at the cost of $20,000, which was quite a popular resort for some years until 1885, when it was burned. South Farmington Corners has a prosperous cheese factory operated by the Koch Brothers, erected in 1883. The township has six school buildings. In 1887 the Soo Railroad Company bridged the St. Croix at Cedar Bend at the south point of the leaning cedars and extended their grade along the base of the precipice overlooking the river above, and commanding an extensive view of bold, picturesque and beautiful scenery. The chairman of Farmington township is Fred Pilgrim; clerk, J. E. Demulling; treasurer, Norman Tewksbury; assessor, A. A. Schmidt. There are in the township in 1908 502 horses, assessed at $42,372; 2,420 neat cattle, assessed at $35,483;

213 sheep and lambs, assessed at $639; 719 swine, assessed at $3,609; 29,317.51 acres, assessed with improvements, at $563,458; personal property, assessed at $107,087; total assessment, $670,545. Following was the acreage devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 314; corn, 1,440; oats, 4,921; barley, 825; rye, 16; flaxseed, 11; potatoes, 480; hay, 3,692; growing timber, 30. There are two settlements, East and South Farmington.

**John E. Demulling** was born in Farmington township, Polk county, Wisconsin, March 30, 1866, son of John W. and Rosa (Rump) Demulling, the former a native of Luxemburg and the latter of Prussia. They came to America in 1857 and in 1859 homesteaded eighty acres at Farmington, where the father carried on general farming until his death. His wife is still living. John E. received a good education in the common schools of Farmington township and then farmed and lumbered for ten years, subsequently purchasing eighty acres, which he broke and improved, erecting barns, outbuildings and a fine house, which is neatly furnished throughout. Later he added another eighty acres and has since carried on general farming and stock raising with considerable success. He belongs to the Catholic church and to the American Society of Equity. A Republican in politics, he was appointed town clerk in 1906 and has since retained the office. He has been justice of the peace six years and school director of District No. 6 for fifteen years. In the Elm Grove and Alden cheese factories he is stockholder and secretary, which positions he has held since the organization of those companies. He is also secretary of the Farmington Mutual Fire Insurance Company, of Farmington, Wis. Mr. Demulling was married January 17, 1893, to Annie Newman, daughter of Edward and Veronica (Litfien) Newman, natives of Germany, now farmers of Farmington, Wis. This union has been blessed with ten children: Annie, Gertrude, Veronica, Leo, Laura, Raymond, Lester, Frank, Herman and George, ranging in age from fifteen to two years.

**W. A. Demulling,** son of Henry and Dora (Wolfe) Demulling, was born in Farmington township, Wisconsin, August 22, 1871. His parents were natives of Germany. They came to America in the early '50s and were married in Stillwater, Minn., May 20, 1858. That same year they came to Farmington township, took up eighty acres of land and carried on general farming. In 1863 Henry Demulling enlisted in the Fourth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and served until the close of the war. He had a family of ten children, three sons and seven daughters; two girls are dead. Mr. Demulling's father and mother live on the old homestead with him. W. A. Demulling was educated in the common

schools and then took up farming. He owns 223 acres of land in Farmington township, upon which he has made many improvements, now carrying on general farming. Aside from this he owns an interest in the Cloverdale cheese factory, located in Farmington township, and in the Elm Grove cheese factory. He is a Republican in politics and superintendent of Road Division No. 5. His farm is an excellent one, and he is generally regarded as one of the prosperous and progressive farmers of the township. He was married in 1900 to Polena Mathews, daughter of William and Polena (Warner) Mathews, by whom he has four children, William, Polena, Garhardt and Irvin. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church. Mr. Demulling is a member of the American Society of Equity.

**Martin Garske** is a native of Germany, born October 17, 1853, son of John and Maria (Neuman) Garske, the former of whom died when Martin was quite young. Martin came to America with his mother and stepfather at the age of thirteen years, settling in Polk county, Farmington, Wis. The stepfather, Michael Rump, whom Martin's mother married in Germany, died in 1900. After coming here, Martin completed the education he had started in Germany by attending the Polk county schools two winters. Since that time he has devoted his whole life to farming. Although Michael Rump was $300 in debt when he came here, Martin has worked so faithfully and industriously with his stepfather that he is now one of the well-to-do men of the township. He owns 120 acres of good land, sixty acres being under the plow. He has cleared a large part of the land and erected buildings, including a new barn, 36x60 feet, with an eight-foot basement. General farming occupies his attention, and he makes a specialty of selling milk to the Cloverdale cheese factory, of which he is a stockholder. Mr. Garske is a Republican in politics, has been town treasurer seven years and road supervisor two years. He was married in 1880 to Annie Krenz, daughter of Martin and Rosa Krenz, natives of the same part of Prussia that Mr. Garske came from. This union has resulted in ten children; Mary, Martin, August, Anton (deceased), Leo, John, Anna, Gertrude, Clemens and William (deceased). The family faith is that of the Catholic church.

**William F. Koch** first saw the light of day in the town of Morel, Sheboygan county, Wis., December 31, 1855. His parents, William and Theresa (Bohne) Koch, were natives of Germany, who came to America in the early '40s and located in the town where William was born, purchasing eighty acres of land and carrying on general farming operations. They sold the farm in 1865 and purchased 120 acres at Sheboygan Falls, same

county, living there until 1872. In that year they moved to Plymouth, same county, bought 160 acres of land, made necessary improvements and remained until 1878, when they moved to Plymouth city, Wis., purchasing a beautiful home, located on Fond du Lac avenue, remaining there until the time of their deaths, the father passing away in 1896 and the mother in 1907. William F. received a good education in the common schools and then attended the Plymouth High school. He worked with his father on the farm, also engaging in cheese-making. In 1882 he came to East Farmington, erecting a block and opening a general store, which he still conducts with marked success, the goods from his store having won for him the confidence of those with whom he has dealings. Aside from his mercantile interests he is sole proprietor and manager of two fine cheese factories. He also owns a farm of eighty acres in Farmington township. He is a Republican in politics and was treasurer of his school district for several years. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Koch was married December 25, 1878, to Ida Goelzer, daughter of Philip and Catherine Goelzer, natives of Germany, now residents of Plymouth, Wis. This union has resulted in seven children: Florence, born September 12, 1879, married to Albert Wipples; Lulu, born March 14, 1882; Seymour, born March 3, 1889, died the same year; Willis, born March 14, 1890, now a clerk for his father; Oswald, born August 2, 1891, a graduate of Osceola High school and now a student at the University of Wisconsin; Warren, born June 7, 1895, and Aaron, born December 25, 1899.

**William Lueck** is one of the early pioneers of this section, having spent his boyhood here in the days of the early settlement. He was born in a log cabin in Farmington, Wis., in 1871, son of Lewis and Henrietta Schwanke Lueck, who came to America in 1867, and settled in Farmington township, Polk county, in June of that year. They have since continued to reside in the same place. Upon coming here, the father built a log cabin in which the family continued to live for several years, and in which some of the children were born. He settled in the heart of the woods, cleared the land, broke the turf and developed the place, making it into a first-class farm. William received an education in the district schools and has worked on the farm with his father all his life. They now own 240 acres, eighty having been added to the original homestead of 160 acres. They have 100 acres of this under the plow and carry on general farming and stock raising. Lewis Lueck has three children: William, Alvena and Emma. William was married in 1896 to Margaret Demulling, and has had four children: Herbert, Etta, William and Oswald. When Lewis came here he was $40 in

JOHN G. NELSON AND FAMILY

debt, and he now is in comfortable circumstances, all owing to his hard work and industry. Father and son are Republicans, and the family faith is that of the German Lutheran church.

**Michael E. Madden** is a native of Pennsylvania, born March 10, 1850, son of John and Ellen (Kennedy) Madden, natives of Ireland, who moved to New York in the early days. They lived successively in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Dubuque, Iowa; St. Paul, Minn.; Ft. Snelling, Minn., and Burkhardt, Wis. In 1862 they settled in Farmington township, Wis., near where Michael is now located, and farmed until the father's death, in 1880. The mother is also now deceased. Our subject was educated mostly in Osceola Prairie, then worked in the pineries and on the river, logging on the St. Croix river and its tributaries for nine winters. In 1874 he bought 160 acres in Farmington township, eighty of which he cleared and broke. Later he bought 120 acres, all improved. He now carries on general farming and stock raising. He has served five years as chairman of the town board of Farmington township and has been a member of the board for ten years. He also was clerk of his school district for eighteen years. With a leaning toward the Democratic party, he still believes in voting for the best man, and often votes independently, irrespective of parties or politics. In all his undertakings he has been successful, and is highly thought of in the community wherein he resides. Mr. Madden was married in 1876 to Mary Barry, daughter of Patrick and Hannorah (Hardiman) Barry, by whom he has had nine children: John, Mary, William, Nora, Thomas, Kate, Joseph, Leo and Annie. He served twelve years as postmaster in South Farmington, which office was discontinued August 31, 1903, and the rural free delivery established.

**John G. Nelson** is a native of Lagro, Wabash county, Ind., born June 24, 1838, son of Thompson and Mary Ann (Greenlee) Nelson, natives of Mason, W. Va., the former born June 12, 1811, and the latter February 3, 1814. The father moved to Lagro, Ind., in 1830 and farmed until 1854, when he came to the town of Somerset and bought eighty acres, which he broke and improved, carrying on general farming until his death, in September, 1884. The mother passed away at Spooner, Wis., April 5, 1898. John G. received his education in the common schools and engaged in lumbering with his father until 1861, when he enlisted at Hudson, this state, in the Union army, serving in Company G, Fourth Wisconsin Cavalry, under Colonel Payne and Captain White. He participated in engagements at the mouth of the Mississippi, and engaged in scouting and skirmish duty until 1865, when he was mustered out at New Orleans. He subsequently returned to this county, and engaged in lumbering

on the St. Croix river for two years. He then bought twenty acres in Polk county, where he remained two years; in 1873 he purchased eighty acres at Cedar Bend, Wis., working this place until 1880, when he moved to Madison, Greenwood county, Kan. In 1884 he moved to Farmington, Wis., acquired 120 acres and built a handsome home and barns, doing general farming. In 1886 he homesteaded 160 acres on Chicog, Washburn county, this state, remaining until 1899. He now resides in Farmington township, and is taking life at leisure, enjoying a well deserved rest, after years of hard toil. In the course of his farming days, it is estimated that he broke about 600 acres of wild land, all now in a high stage of cultivation. Mr. Nelson was married November 7, 1867, to Melissa A. Wright, daughter of James and Mary Jane (Stevens) Wright. Mrs. Wright was born at Cranford, Washington county, Me. The father was born in Nova Scotia and removed to this county in the early days, settling at St. Croix Falls, then coming to Farmington, where he purchased 160 acres at $1.25 an acre, which he broke and improved, continuing farming until his death, February 10, 1876. His wife passed away July 22, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have been blessed with eight children: William, a Farmington farmer, was born October 1, 1868, and married Maria Montgomery; James W. was born December 27, 1870, and married Minnie McLean, being also a farmer in this township; Frank J., a farmer of Osceola, was born April 14, 1873, and married Jessie Trumbull; Miles, a farmer and machinist of Fargo, Minn., married Tilly Wold, of Minneapolis, Minn., having been born October 19, 1876; Marshall O. is a druggist of Grand Valley, Colo., was born October 29, 1879, and married Rose Nelson, of St. Paul, Minn.; Von O. was born September 27, 1881, and is now a photographer, living at home; Howard, born June 2, 1885, died February 10, 1886; Elmer B., born March 16, 1887, lives at home, being a graduate of the agricultural department of the college at Madison, this state. Mr. Nelson is a Republican in politics, and has served on the side board of this township, as well as occupying the position of clerk of the school board of his district. He is also supervisor of the cheese factory. A man of broad understanding, he is fond of travel and a short time ago spent twenty-seven months taking members of his family through the south, visiting various places of historic interest. He is a man who has been hard working and industrious, and also a thorough reader, well informed on the topics of the day, being of that class of citizens who give to the township the reputation that it enjoys throughout the valley.

**Fred Pilgrim** is a native-born son, having first seen the light of day in Farmington township, Wis., September 9, 1863. He is

the son of Joseph and Zoa (Richards) Pilgrim, who settled early in Massachusetts, where the father worked twelve years in the iron business. In 1859 they came to this section, locating in the village of Osceola, Wis. One year later they came to Farmington township, purchased eighty acres of land, and started farming. Selling this piece they purchased 120 acres in the same township, which they broke and improved, carrying on general farming until 1893, when the father retired and took up his residence with the subject of this sketch, where he still makes his home. The mother died May 13, 1892, deeply mourned by all who knew her. Fred received his education in the district schools of Farmington and then took up various labor, doing lumber contracting for a number of years. From 1887 to 1892 he farmed in Grand Forks, North Dakota. In the latter year he sold his farm there, returned to Farmington, Wis., and purchased his father's farm. He now owns 220 acres of land under the plow and twenty acres not yet developed, making in all 240 acres. He carries on general farming. A house and other buildings, which he has erected, add to the value and the beauty of the place, and Mr. Pilgrim is regarded as an up-to-date farmer in every respect, the house being valued at $2,000 and the barn at $1,000. Mr. Pilgrim was married June 30, 1895, to Annie E. Morrow, daughter of William and Katherine (Mortimer) Morrow, of Star Prairie, Wis., at the present time, but natives of Ireland. This union has been blessed with four children: Bernice, born April 19, 1896; William H., born April 8, 1900; Catherine, born June 23, 1906, and Allan M., born August 21, 1908. The subject of this sketch is a Republican in politics and is chairman of the township at the present time. He is also a director of his school district and holds stock in the Osceola Mutual Telephone Company, in which he is one of the directors. He is one of those men of whom it may truly be said that the town has progressed by reason of his living in it and working for it. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen.

**August A. Schmidt** is a native of Germany, born September 18, 1855, son of August F. Schmidt. His parents came to Farmington township, Polk county and settled on a farm. The father is now dead. The mother lives with her son William, of Osceola, Wis. August was educated in the schools of Germany and came to the United States in 1872. He is located in Farmington township, where he has 420 acres of land, 250 being under the plow. He carries on general farming, making a specialty of dairying, keeping from thirty to forty head of cattle. He also raises some fine grade horses. He started in the early days on a small scale, working the farm with a pair of oxen. He broke all the land,

erected the buildings and made general improvements. A Republican in politics, he has served as treasurer of the township of Farmington several years. He is now the assessor of the township. Mr. Schmidt belongs to the Modern Woodmen and is a member of the Lutheran church. He was married in 1881 to Emma Kromrey, daughter of William Kromrey, a native of Germany, who lived a short time in Farmington township, but later moved to Eau Claire, Wis., where he and his wife now reside. Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt have ten children: Ernest, Olga, Bertha, William, Henry, Erna, Amanda, Irene, Esther and Gertrude.

**Norman E. Tewksbury** was born in the township of Farmington, Polk county, Wis., April 23, 1870, son of David E. and Charlotte Tewksbury, of whom mention is found in this history in connection with that of George A. Tewksbury. Norman E. received his education in the common schools of his native township and then farmed with his father until the latter's death, June 29, 1901, after which he still continued on the old homestead. He does general diversified farming, raising small grains, stock, horses and fowls. Mr. Tewksbury is unmarried. In politics, a Republican, he belongs to the Odd Fellows, the Rebekahs, the Modern Woodmen and the Royal Neighbors, and attends the Methodist church. He is now treasurer of the township. The subject of this sketch is of a kindly disposition, always ready to lend a hand to any one in need of assistance or advice. He is still a young man, and his friends predict that he has a pleasant and successful future ahead of him. In the family there were eight brothers and sisters, Norman being the youngest. They are, in the order of their birth: George A., proprietor of the Edgewood Hotel, at Osceola; Alice M., born September 13, 1850, married to Fred Ford, of Everett, Wash.; Ernest, born July 12, 1853, a farmer of Farmington township, and married to Millie Cording; Winfield, born December 31, 1855, a farmer of Farmington township, married to Effie Mallin; Clarence E., born June 28, 1859, married to Florence Kimball; Carmi P., born August 6, 1863, and died January 15, 1881; Bertha L., born April 13, 1867, married to Thomas Adams, a farmer of Volga, Lincoln township; Norman, the subject of this sketch. All have done well in their respective walks in life and are well thought of in the communities wherein they make their homes.

## GARFIELD TOWNSHIP.

Garfield includes thirty sections of range 17 and six sections of range 18, township 33. It is well watered, having a number of small lakes, while Sucker lake, a lake of considerable size, is about equally divided between its own territory and that of Lincoln. In 1886 Garfield was organized and its first supervisors

were Abraham Sylvester, James T. Montgomery and Martin Hanson. In 1887 the Minneapolis, Soo & Atlantic railway built through the town from west to east, in the southern part, this road is now called Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sioux Ste. Marie railroad. Garfield has five good school buildings and several churches. The chairman of Garfield township is F. H. Rasmussen; clerk, Jens P. Hansen; treasurer, G. W. Montgomery; assessor, Joseph E. Clark. There are in the township in 1908, 390 horses, assessed at $25,480; 1,917 neat cattle, assessed at $25,400; 580 sheep and lambs, assessed at $1,734; 250 swine, assessed at $1,410; 21,161.82 acres, assessed with improvements, at $337,515; personal property, assessed at $72,890; total assessment, $404,-405. Following was the acreage devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 184; corn, 537; oats, 2,406; barley, 498; flaxseed, 11; potatoes, 126; hay, 2,165; timber, 30. There are three settlements—Ubet, Elsalem and Deronda.

**Andrew M. Anderson** was born in Sweden, November 22, 1858, son of Anders and Christina (Nelson) Anderson. His father died in 1858 and his mother married Anders Anderson, who also died. She then married Swen Anderson, and they came to America in 1869, locating at Dresser Junction, Wis. The mother died in 1888. Andrew received his education in Sweden and in Wisconsin. In his early days he followed various occupations until 1884, when he bought a farm of 120 acres in Garfield township, broke the land and made general improvements, now carrying on diversified farming, of which dairying is the principal feature. Mr. Anderson is a Republican in politics. He has just completed seven years as side supervisor, and is now a director in both the Apple River Mutual Insurance Company and the Osceola Mutual Telephone Company. The subject of this sketch was married November 10, 1886, to Clara Lundberg, of Osceola, Wis., daughter of Erick and Ingred Lundberg. There are six children: Walter, born September 23, 1887; Elber, born, March 8, 1889; Addie, born April 5, 1891; Reuben, born February 17, 1893; Ellen, born July 20, 1899, and Alice, born February 15, 1902. It is worthy of note that Mr. Anderson has in his possession a rare old Swedish Bible, dated 1760. He has been offered large sums for this book, but has always refused to part with so valuable a relic and keepsake.

**Andrew Roos** is a native of Gestricland, Sweden, born May 15, 1859, son of Anders and Alice Roos, natives of Sweden, who are still living, the father being a school teacher, farmer and carpenter. He was born March 14, 1836, and his wife first saw the light of day July 20, 1832. Andrew received his education in his native country and did general labor until 1880, when he came to America, located at St. Paul, Minn., and then went to

Haywood, Wis., working on the railroad, and thence to New Richmond, Wis., farming, lumbering and sawmilling. His next location was at Little Falls, Minn., then back to New Richmond, Wis., and subsequently to Garfield township, Polk county, Wis., where he bought eighty acres of land, which he broke and improved. He is a progressive farmer, being the first man in this vicinity to install a hand separator. He carries on general diversified farming, dairying and stock raising. In 1901 he added another eighty acres to his farm, and in 1907 built a fine new barn. He has also sunk a thirty-eight-foot well with a thirty-foot tower. A Republican in politics, Mr. Roos is now serving his eighth term as side supervisor, having been supervisor two terms, town clerk one year, treasurer six years and school treasurer five years. He is a stockholder and director, also treasurer in the Deronda Creamery Association, with which he has been associated since 1904. Mr. Ross was married November 25, 1884 to Carrie Torgeson, daughter of Matt and May Torgeson, natives of Norway, but residents of Amery. This union has resulted in five children: Alice, Albert, Emma, Emil and Clara. Mr. Roos is an honest, hard working man and has been successful in all his undertakings.

**John Carlson** first saw the light of day in Sweden, December 14, 1859, son of Charles and Annie Carlson, who lived and died in that country. John was educated in his native land, worked at lumbering and sawmilling until 1884, when he came to America and purchased eighty acres of land in Garfield township, Wisconsin. The land was wild at that time, and Mr. Carlson at once set about breaking it and preparing it for farming purposes. He built a house and also erected buildings to shelter his live stock and store his produce. He now carries on general farming. He is a Republican in politics. Mr. Carlson was married in June, 1896, to Emma Larson. This union has resulted in three children —Ellen, Harold and Esther. The family religion is that of the Swedish Mission church.

**Frank L. Corey** is a native of Leroy, now Osceola, Polk county, Wis., born March 11, 1859, son of Joseph S. and Pamelia (Foster) Corey, natives of Maine and Massachusetts respectively. They lived in Boston, Mass., for a time and the father was a basket maker until coming to Osceola, when he took up eighty acres of land, which he broke and improved, building a home and barns. He sold this farm and bought 120 acres, then sold and bought 320 acres, the latter in Garfield township. In 1886 he retired and bought a home in Osceola village, living there until his death, July 24, 1902. His wife died in April, 1900. Frank L. received his education in the schools of Osceola, and after leaving school farmed with his father. He has since continued

on the old homestead in Garfield township, carrying on general farming. He has rebuilt the house, erected a fine new barn, 36x70, and made other improvements and alterations. A Republican in politics, he is now the sheriff of Polk county, having just completed seven years as chairman of his township. He is clerk of his school district, a position he has occupied for the past ten years. He belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Maccabees. The subject of this sketch was married December 25, 1881, to Agnes Montgomery, born December 2, 1858, daughter of John and Agnes (Patterson) Montgomery, natives of Ireland and Scotland respectively. They located first at New York, then in Indiana, then in Stillwater, Minn., and in 1868 in Osceola, Wis., the father passing away March 14, 1886, and the mother December 23, 1895. Mr. and Mrs. Corey have been blessed with eight children. Two died in infancy. Etta died December 16, 1882, and Dwight died March 6, 1884. Leslie was born June 9, 1885; Ada was born May 30, 1887; Lucy was born September 5, 1889; Cleon was born July 15, 1892; Walter was born November 18, 1894, and Ethel was born December 4, 1901. Mr. Corey has one sister and three brothers: William, deceased; Elizabeth, deceased; Edgar, at Dresser Junction, Wis., and George, a farmer of Garfield township, Wis.

**Andrew Eastland** is a native of Minnesota, born near Center City, Chisago county, April 12, 1858. His parents, Hans Erickson and Elizabeth Olson Erickson, were natives of Sweden. They came to America in 1856, settled near Center City and carried on farming for the remainder of their lives. The father died in January, 1887, and the mother passed away in October, 1880. Andrew received his education in the schools of Center City and did various labor in the woods, on farms and on the railroad until 1882 when he came to Garfield township, bought 120 acres, brought the land to a high stage of cultivation, built the necessary buildings and made other improvements, carrying on general farming and dairying, making a specialty of the latter. In politics he is a prohibitionist. He was side supervisor one year, school treasurer of his district seven years and has also been honored in other ways. He is a member of the Baptist church. The subject of this sketch was married February 11, 1892, to Jennie Johnson, of Marine Mills, Minn., by whom he has five children: Amy, born January 25, 1894; Raymond, born October 7, 1895; Ruth, born October 3, 1897; Herbert, born December 27, 1901, and Myrtle born April 22, 1905, dying in infancy.

**August Gumpert,** owner and proprietor of a fine farm, roller mills, general store and cheese factory, all in Lincoln township, Wisconsin, was born in Germany, March 14, 1853. His father was a miller by trade and followed that occupation in the Fatherland all his life. August received his education in Germany and

learned the milling business. In 1871 he landed in New York City, and after two years there, went to Pittsburg, Penn., locating in Ellsworth, Wis., in 1878. In 1881 he went to St. Paul, Minn., and then came to Garfield township, Wisconsin, in 1896. Upon coming here he purchased eighty acres of land, and from this modest beginning he has prospered until he owns 225 acres, the last 145 acres he purchased having fine water power. Upon this farm are situated the Balsam Branch Roller Mills, a large general store and a cheese factory, all being the sole property of Mr. Gumpert. He has been too busy to seek office, but always votes the Republican ticket. He attends the Lutheran church. Mr. Gumpert has a fine home and a fine business, he is well-to-do and is looked upon as one of the solid men of the county. His success has been well deserved and he has a host of friends who wish him well. The subject of this sketch was married in August, 1878, to Sarah Miller, of Pittsburg, Penn., the daughter of James and Mary J. Miller. The former is dead, and the latter still makes her home in Pennsylvania. This marriage has been blessed with eight children: Clara, who married Charles Paulson; Alvin, who married Agnes Montgomery; Walter, Wilbur, Ida, who is now Mrs. Johnson; Edward, Carl and Willie.

**John Gustafson** is a native of Sweden, born February 15, 1855, son of Gustaf and Johannah (Nelson) Gustafson, natives of Sweden, who came to America in 1885 and located in the township of Balsam Lake, buying eighty acres, breaking and improving the land and carrying on general farming until the time of their deaths. The father passed away in June, 1903, and the mother ended her days in March, 1897. John received his education in the schools of Sweden and farmed until coming to this country. In 1881 he located in Lincoln township, purchased 128 acres of land, broke and improved it, and resided thereon until 1894, when he came to Garfield township and bought eighty acres in that township and a similar tract in Balsam Lake township. He improved the former and gave the latter to his son. Upon the piece which he retained he made many improvements, erecting a beautiful home and numerous outbuildings. In 1907 he built a fine barn, 36x64. He does general farming, making a specialty of dairying. Mr. Gustafson was married in Sweden, February 16, 1878, to Gusta Carlson, daughter of Carl Arvedson. The former died in Sweden and the latter is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Gustafson have been blessed with eight children. They are: Manda, Gust E., Albert, Annie, Elmer, Ida, Nannie and Annie. The subject of this sketch is a Republican in politics and has been treasurer of Lincoln township two terms. The family religion is that of the Lutheran church.

**Anton Hansen,** one of the successful farmers of Garfield township, was born in Denmark, November 13, 1861, son of Hans and Johannah Fredericksen, residents of Denmark all their lives, the former dying in January, 1899, and the latter in 1863. Anton received his education in the public schools of his native land and engaged in milling there until coming to America in 1882. He at once settled in Diamond Bluff, Wis., and then went to St. Paul, Minn., working on the street cars. He next worked as a miller in Esdale, Wis., for three years, next locating at Prescott, Wis., for two years. In North Dakota he farmed for a year, then again returned to St. Paul, engaging in different occupations. After two years with the Northwestern railroad he worked seven years for one firm, subsequently going to Renville, Minn., where he bought 160 acres of land, which he broke and improved. After eighteen months he sold this, returned once again to St. Paul and then came to Garfield township. Here he purchased eighty acres of land, built a home and made general improvements and continued to carry on general farming, making a specialty of dairying. The subject of this sketch is now side supervisor of the township and clerk of his school district. He is a Social Democrat and belongs to the United Brethren. Mr. Hansen was married May 14, 1892, to Anna Rockney, born July 1, 1866, daughter of Lars and Ingre (Rodde) Rockney, natives of Norway, who came to America the year their daughter was born. The father died April 30, 1898, and the mother passed away October 13, 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have three children: Harvey, born June 30, 1893; Amherst, born December 24, 1896, and Nioma, born June 1, 1899.

**Hans P. Hanson** is a native of Denmark, born September 28, 1847. His parents, Hans C. and Annie (Cecelia) Hanson, came to America in 1867 and located at Oshkosh, Wis., staying one year, then going to Marcellon, Columbia county, Wis., where they purchased a farm of eighty acres. In 1872 they gave this place to their son, John, and came to Polk county, Wisconsin, living with the subject of this sketch three years. They then located at Milltown, Wis., remaining there until the father's death, July 28, 1885. The mother died June 27, 1894. Hans P. received his education in Denmark, and came to America with his parents, locating with them at Oshkosh, Wis. In 1870 he came to Garfield township and homesteaded eighty acres, breaking and developing the land and erecting all the buildings. In 1901 he sold this farm and moved to Cushing Lake, Wis., purchased a lot and built a home, remaining until 1903, when he sold out and returned to Garfield township, purchasing forty acres, where he built a new home and made many improvements. He now has a beautiful place and carries on general farming, raising the

usual crops and live stock. He votes the Republican ticket, attends the Lutheran church and has served two terms as treasurer of his school district, also as path master six years in the same district. The subject of this sketch was married May 28, 1876, to Christine Johnsen, daughter of Jens Peterson and Marian Andersen, the former of whom died April 5, 1871, and the latter July 15, 1893, in Denmark.

**John F. Johnson,** road overseer of Garfield township, Wisconsin, for nineteen years, is a native of Sweden, born April 4, 1847, son of Johannas and Marie (Larson) Johnson, the former of whom was a pilot, farmer and fisherman, now deceased. The mother died in 1906. John F. received his education in Sweden, farmed a short time and also followed the sea. At twenty-one years of age he became a government pilot and on July 30, 1869, came to America, securing employment on the New Jersey railroad. In August, 1869, he came to St. Croix Falls, Wis., and worked at farming and lumbering until 1872, when he located in Garfield township, Wis., homesteading eighty acres on section 10, township 33, range 17. He broke the land, built a home and other buildings. He sold forty acres, but bought 120 acres more, making 160 acres, which he now owns and where he now resides. He carries on general farming and dairying, doing also some mason work. Mr. Johnson is a Republican in politics, and has been treasurer and director of his school district for many years. He belongs to the Lutheran church. The subject of this sketch was married in May, 1878, to Louise Johnson, born in August, 1846. Eight children have blessed this union: Albert, Josie, Oscar, Alick S., Frank, Herbert, Annie and Minnie, all of whom are married.

**Andrew Lindberg** is a native of Sweden, born September 30, 1850. His parents, Andrew and Sarah Lindberg, came to America in the fall of 1857, and were fourteen weeks on the water. Two of their sons died on the journey, and were buried at sea. Ocean voyaging was a different matter in those days than it is at present, and entailed not only long and tiresome journeys but also sickness and sometimes, as in the case of our subject's ers, death. The parents located in the town of Osceola, Wis., purchased 160 acres of land, made many improvements, and carried on general farming. The father was killed in the woods in 1863, and the mother died at the old homestead in 1907. Andrew received his education in the schools of Osceola, Wis., and after leaving school took up work as a farmer and lumberman, working in the pineries and at log driving. In 1874 he bought 132 acres in Garfield township, broke and grubbed the land, built a home and other buildings and started general farming, which he has since continued. He thoroughly understands the farming business and has met with considerable success. Mr. Lindberg is

a Republican in politics and attends the Lutheran church. He was married, November 8, 1883, to Amanda Siltberg, daughter of Nicklos Siltberg, a native of Sweden, now a resident of Garfield township. This union has resulted in one child, Clinton H., born August 24, 1885, now a student at the Madison Agricultural College at Madison, Wis.

**Abraham Lindberg** was born in Sweden, February 28, 1849, son of Andrew and Sarah Lindberg. Abraham received his education in his native land and in America. He farmed with his father and worked in the woods until 1874, when he came to Garfield township and purchased eighty acres of land, which he broke and developed, erecting a house and necessary buildings. In 1900 he built a new barn, and in 1908 built an addition to the barn and rebuilt the house. He now carries on general farming, making a specialty of dairying. He is a Republican in politics and has served as supervisor of the township two years. He belongs to the Lutheran church. He married Mrs. Ida S. Lovedahl, daughter of Peter Anderson, by whom he has three children: Edith, born October 4, 1891; Aaron, born March 29, 1894, and William J., born June 26, 1897. Mrs. Lindberg had one son by her first marriage, Alvin L. Lovedahl. The subject of this sketch is a well-to-do farmer, a kind father and husband, a loyal friend and a good citizen in every respect. He is interested in all that pertains to the good of his township, but has never cared to seek political office, preferring rather to devote his time to his farm and his family.

**David McCourt** is a native of New York state, born December 24, 1854, son of James and Margaret (Young) McCourt, who lived for many years in New York state, coming to Garfield township, Wisconsin, in 1860 and purchasing 160 acres of land, carrying on general farming until their deaths. The father died in July, 1901, and the mother passed away in September, 1898. David attended the common schools and then engaged in farming and lumbering until 1880, when he purchased 110 acres in Garfield township, Wisconsin, broke the land and made all improvements, erecting buildings and carrying on general farming, in which he is at present engaged. He is a Republican in politics. He served as assessor of Garfield and is now road overseer and school director, both of which positions he has held for several years past, greatly to his own credit and the satisfaction of his fellow citizens. He circulated the petition to have a postoffice established at Ubet, Wis., and was its postmaster five years until it was discontinued by reason of the rural free delivery system. Mr. McCourt is a member of the Presbyterian church and affiliates with the Maccabees. He was married June 29, 1882, to Matilda Nelson, daughter of Gustaf Nelson, of Dresser Junction, Wis. This union

has resulted in four children: Mamie, born December 30, 1883, married to John Blanding; Charles, born July 7, 1884, married to May Johnson; Nellie, born May 11, 1886, and died September 19, 1903, and Lillian, born December 17, 1891.

**David R. McLean** was born in St. Croix Falls, Wis., August 17, 1854, son of John and Sarah McLean, natives of Vermont, of whom a sketch will be found in this history in connection with that of Gardner McLean. David received his education in the schools of St. Croix Falls and followed farming with his father until twenty years of age, when he went to work on the river and in the woods for eight years. Returning to St. Croix Falls for one year, he then came to Garfield township, Wisconsin, and purchased eighty acres of land, which he broke, improved and developed, erecting a house and roomy barns, doing all the work himself. He now carries on general farming and in addition to this keeps about 100 hives of Italian bees. He is regarded as an expert in this line and has made a great success of honey culture. Mr. McLean has served the township as assessor and is a public spirited and progressive man—a good citizen in every respect. He affiliates with the Odd Fellows. Mr. McLean was married April 6, 1883, to Kate H. Clark, of Osceola, Wis., daughter of Leyman and Elizabeth (Wood) Clark. This union has resulted in five children: Cora B., Joseph R., Claude E., Mary V. and Roland. Joseph is now studying hydraulic engineering, for which profession he has shown considerable aptitude.

**Gardner McLean,** a farmer of Garfield township, was born in Delevan, Walworth county, Wis., September 29, 1850, son of John and Sarah Turnbull, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Quebec, Canada. They came to Wisconsin in 1839 and in 1845 the father located in St. Croix Falls, bringing his family here in 1851. He continued in the sawmill business until 1856, when he purchased a farm of 160 acres and carried on general farming until the time of his death, in February, 1903. The mother died in January, 1896. Gardner received his education in the district schools of St. Croix Falls and farmed with his father until eighteen years of age, then worked on the river and in the woods for a period of fifteen years. In 1874 he purchased a farm of 157 acres in Garfield township, which he broke and improved, erecting a house and all outbuildings. He now has under construction a new barn, 36x70 feet. Mr. McLean makes a specialty of dairying and grain raising. He is a Democrat in politics and has served on the township side board, having also been treasurer and director of the school board. Mr. McLean was married, July 28, 1873, to Anna M. Siltberg, of Osceola, daughter of Nicholas Siltberg, a farmer of Osceola township. To this union have been born nine children: John, a farmer of St. Croix township,

recently elected town treasurer; Minnie, married to James Nelson, of Farmington; David, who works at the Bethania Springs at Osceola; Lester, a carpenter; Tena, married to Henry Van Hollan; Gracie, married to Charlie Lisch; Willie H., Mildred and Harland. The three youngest children are at home. The family religion is that of the Lutheran church.

**Olof Mattson** was born in Sweden, September 11, 1855, son of Erick and Carrie Mattson, who came to America in 1869, located at St. Croix Falls, Wis., stayed there three years and then homesteaded eighty acres in Garfield township, Wisconsin, subsequently selling out and taking up his home with the subject of this sketch until his death. His wife, mother of young Olof, is also deceased. Olof received his education in the public schools of his native land and came to America with his parents. He worked with his father until 1880, when he bought 120 acres of land in Lincoln township, which he broke and developed. He built a house and barns and has continued to carry on general farming with considerable success. He is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Lutheran church. Mr. Mattson was married at Sand Lake, Wis., July 3, 1895, to Sophia Johnson, of Minneapolis, daughter of Jonas and Maria Johnson, natives of Sweden, who came to America in 1890 and located in Marine, Minn. The mother died October 18, 1903, and the father returned to the old country the following year, passing away April 14, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Mattson have been blessed with three children: Roy, born January 11, 1897; Reuben, born March 5, 1898, and Reynold A., born September 16, 1904.

**Olof Olson** is another member of the Olson family who has assisted in the developing of the farming and agricultural interests of Garfield township. He was born in Sweden, March 31, 1856, son of Olof and Anne D. (Lood) Olson, of whom a sketch will be found in this history in connection with that of the Olson brothers. The subject of this sketch received his education in the schools of his native country and in the district school of Osceola and came to America in 1869, making his home for about twenty years with his father in Osceola township. He then went to Anoka, Minn., and engaged in the grocery business ten years. In 1882 he bought a fine farm of eighty acres in Garfield township, Wisconsin, but did not move on the farm until the spring of 1885. He improved and cleared the land, erecting a house and other buildings. Since that date he has continued to carry on general farming and stock raising, turning his attention principally to dairying. Aside from his farming interest he is one of the stockholders of the Osceola Mutual Telephone Company, of which he is an ardent advocate, as he is of everything else that tends to the betterment of the community. He is a Republican in

politics and has been treasurer of his school district for sixteen years. In religion he is a Baptist. Mr. Olson was married April 16, 1880, to Betsey Moody, of Cambridge, Minn., daughter of Peter and Leisa Moody. Mrs. Olson was born August 22, 1863, and has borne to Mr. Olson ten children: Hattie, born in Anoka, February 4, 1881, married to Peter Mattson; Annie, born in Anoka, August 22, 1883; Ella V., born February 10, 1886, married to Julius Fredland; John Lester, born March 6. 1888; Ernest W., born October 8, 1890; Arthur W., born May 3, 1893; Chester M., born November 7, 1897; Hazel M., born November 23, 1901; Lawrence O., born November 27, 1904, and Harold V., born September 9, 1907. All except the two oldest were born in Garfield township.

**Ferdinand H. Rasmussen** was born in Denmark, December 6, 1847, son of Jergen Thomas and Anna Maria Rasmussen, natives of Denmark. The father was a farmer and merchant. He died in 1902 and his wife passed away in 1900. Ferdinand received his education in his native country and then took an agricultural course, from which he graduated. Subsequently he studied two years in a veterinary college at Copenhagen, afterward entered the military service of his native land and in 1871 came to America, locating in Cook county, Illinois. After living a short time there he went to Louisiana, then returned to Chicago and still later located in what is now Garfield township, Wisconsin. In 1874 he purchased 160 acres, to which he has since added forty more. He broke the land, made improvements, erected a log house and outbuildings and continued to improve the place. He still lives on the farm, does general farming and makes a specialty of milk and cream. Ferdinand is a Republican in politics. He is now chairman of the town board, has been assessor three years, town clerk seven years, county clerk four years, school clerk, treasurer and director twenty years, postmaster at Elsalen, Garfield township, twenty years, and has also occupied other positions of trust and honor. He was married in June, 1880, to Sinie Johnson, of Shetak, Barron county, Wis., daughter of Paul and Bodil Johnson, natives of Denmark, who came to America and located at Winnebago county, Wisconsin, later going to Shetak. The father died in 1897 and the mother in 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Rasmussen have been blessed with three children: Clara A., born January 25, 1881, married to William Reed, of North Dakota; Roy F., a graduate of the Osceola High School and the Rasmussen Business College at St. Paul, and Rupert F., who is now at home. The family religion is that of the Lutheran church, and Mr. Rasmussen affiliates with the Odd Fellows and the American Society of Equity.

## GEORGETOWN TOWNSHIP.

Georgetown comprises township 35, range 16. The Apple river abundantly supplies this town with water; besides its numerous tributaries and lakes, some of the lakes being of considerable size, makes it a fertile and well watered country. The largest of the lakes are Bone, Blake, Powder and Pipe. The timber is hardwood and pine. Immense quantities of pine have been taken from this town, and the wild meadows were plentiful. Georgetown was organized November 15, 1879. David H. Smith, Elisha E. Drake and August Larbell were the first supervisors. George P. Anderson was the first settler, coming there in 1873, and the town was named after his Christian name. The first school was organized in 1874 and taught by John Burns. The town at present (1908) has four nice school buildings. A post-office was established as early as 1881 at Bunyan. G. P. Anderson was appointed postmaster. The chairman of Georgetown township is Dr. H. W. Radcliff; clerk, Clarence Kinney; treasurer, A. N. Morrison; assessor, Jesse Ellis. There were in the township in 1908: 124 horses, assessed at $4,410; 456 cattle, assessed at $7,305; 267 sheep and lambs, assessed at $447; 104 swine, assessed at $414; 19,090.24 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $148,895; personal property, assessed at $18,152; total assessment, $167,047. Following was the acreage devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 22; corn, 138; oats, 402; barley, 64; rye, 1; potatoes, 15; hay, 560. There are two hamlets, Blake and Bunyan.

## JOHNSTOWN TOWNSHIP.

The chairman of Johnstown township is R. V. Phillips; clerk, H. Engelbert; treasurer, Nick Hopman; assessor, George Jansen. There were in the township in 1908: 102 horses, assessed at $6,141; 497 cattle, assessed at $7,681; 204 sheep, assessed at $520; 51 swine, assessed at $214; 22,740.36 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $188,945; personal property, assessed at $21,422; total assessment, $210,367. Following was the acreage devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 49; corn, 37; oats, 233; barley, 52; rye, 6; flaxseed, 1; potatoes, 29; sugar beets, 1; other root crops, 2; hay, 421. There are three schools in the township. There are two settlements, Helbig and Andrus.

CHAPTER LI.

## POLK COUNTY.

**Laketown Township—Lincoln Township—Village of Amery—Lorain Township—Luck Township—Luck Village—Milltown Township—Milltown Village—Biography—Early History—Crops, Acreage and Live Stock.**

### LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP.

It is named from the lakes that dot almost every section in the town. Trade lake, with its tributary from Butternut lake, are the principal streams. The town was set off from Sterling and organized, April 6, 1875. The first supervisors were L. Bell, S. P. Heard and N. Fornell. The town was settled largely by Swedes, Norwegians, Danes and Alabamians. The latter settled in the northwestern part of the town. In 1869 Caleb Cushing bought the agricultural college lands in the town to the amount of 7,200 acres. The first school house was built in 1870. They now have four good schools (1908). P. Tierney taught the first school. Lindsey McKee was the first settler. He also was the first to sell out and leave. Daniel Swensbarger, a German, bought him out, and a number of his countrymen settled near him. Jacob Swensbarger started a store. N. Grondund built the first blacksmith shop. Peter Olsen built the first sawmill at the foot of Long lake. The chairman of Laketown township is C. B. Casperson; clerk, Charles E. Hanson; treasurer, Bern Jorgensen; assessor, John L. Anderson. There were in the township in 1908: 370 horses, assessed at $23,769; 1,886 neat cattle, assessed at $31,460; 149 sheep, assessed at $447; 287 swine, assessed at $1,784; 22,420.29 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $336,272; personal property, assessed at $83,065; total assessment, $419,337. Following is the acreage devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 331; corn, 354; oats, 1,321; barley, 171; rye, 29; flaxseed, 29; potatoes, 48; cranberries, 2; hay, 1,459. There were 27 bearing apple trees. There are three hamlets, Atlas, Alabama and Cushing, the latter of which is on the line between Laketown and Sterling.

### LINCOLN TOWNSHIP.

The town of Lincoln was organized in 1860, being set off from Osceola. The first town meeting was held in April, 1861. A. A.

Heald, M. C. Lane and John Hurness were the first supervisors. The county poor farm is well situated and was well managed for a series of years by Captain Wilkie, and is now being managed very satisfactory to the people. The county is watered by Apple river and its tributaries and has numerous lakes, of which Sucker lake is the largest. The soil is well adapted to the culture of wheat. There are many fine farms in this township. The surface, originally covered with timber, is undulating. Five school houses in the township are well attended. The chairman of Lincoln township is Nels Simley; clerk, G. A. Hansen; treasurer, A. A. Jones; assessor, Olof Haukom. There were in the township in 1908: 403 horses, assessed at $24,255; 2,052 neat cattle, assessed at $27,100; 677 sheep, assessed at $2,086; 280 swine, assessed at $1,671; 23,523.89 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $315,155; personal property, assessed at $73,435; total assessment, $394,930. The following acreage was devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 17; corn, 227; oats, 1,985; barley, 531; rye, 22; hay, 1,882. There are two settlements, Amery and Volga.

**Thomas K. Adams** was born near the historic Catskills, in Green county, New York, June 15, 1846, son of Thomas and Catherine (Dowling) Adams, natives of New York state. The father followed lumbering, farming and tanning at Ulster county, afterward removing to Sullivan county, New York, where he followed his trade of tanning. He was born in 1803 and died in 1870, his wife passing away in 1854. Thomas K. received his education in the schools of New York state and worked with his father for several years. In 1867 he came to Lincoln township, Polk county, Wis., and took up lumbering and farming, homesteading eighty acres. This he sold and devoted his time exclusively to lumbering until 1891, when he bought forty acres in Lincoln township, developed the land, erected buildings and started general farming and stock raising, which he has since continued with marked success. He is a Republican in politics and has always avoided public office. The family religion is that of the Baptist church. Mr. Adams was married to Bertha Tewksbury, daughter of David and Charlotte Tewksbury, of Farmington township, Wisconsin. There are two children: Kephert L., born February 8, 1892, and Vivian, born April 10, 1904.

**Lars Andersen** is a native of Denmark, born September 9, 1849, son of Anners Nielsen and Anna Marie Andersen, the former of whom died in 1870 and the latter in 1894. Lars received his education in the common schools of Denmark and learned the trade of harness maker, which he continued to follow at Lime Springs, Ia., two years after coming to America in 1870. In 1872 he came to the village of Amery, homesteaded eighty acres and made general improvements, including a fine brick house erected in 1900.

He now carries on general farming with much success. He has served on the village board several years and has taken a more or less active interest in public affairs. He is a Republican in politics and attends the Congregational church. Mr. Andersen has been very devoted to his family and takes much pride in keeping his farm, house and barns in an excellent state of repair and improvement. He was married, August 9, 1876, to Emma Kruse, of Amery, daughter of Hans J. and Marion (Christian) Kruse, natives of Denmark, who were among the earliest settlers in this vicinity. Mr. and Mrs. Andersen have had four children, three of whom are living: Margaret, born July 30, 1877, and married to Lars Hansen; Anna L., born June 18, 1884, and married to Mathew Mattson; Hans C., born August 23, 1880, and died June 9, 1905, and Minnie, born July 6, 1897. Mrs. Andersen died June 19, 1905.

**Andrew Callson** was born in Minnesota, March 16, 1856. His parents, Elick and Kate (Erickson) Callson, came to America in the late forties and located first at Marine, Minn., thence in 1867 going to Isanta county, Minn., where the father homesteaded 160 acres, passing away in 1868. Andrew received his education in Isanta county, Minnesota, and then came to Lincoln township, Polk county, in 1873, homesteading forty acres, to which he later added eighty more, continuing until the present time to carry on general farming, grain raising, stock breeding and dairying. He is a Republican in politics and has always taken an interest in public affairs. He is now serving his fourth term as road master, and has been a school director of district No. 1 for several years. Mr. Callson was married, June 16, 1879, to Maggie Haselburg, daughter of Peter and Maggie Haselburg. This union has been blessed with five children: Clarence, born August 28, 1884; Ella, born February 7, 1889; Andy, born April 13, 1891; Rose, born October 4, 1895, and Martha, born July 17, 1900.

**Carl J. Carlson** first saw the light of day in Sweden, February 22, 1851, son of Charles Pierson and Carrie Nelson, natives of that country. Carl J. received his education in the schools of his native land and came to America in 1880, locating in Balsam Lake township, Wisconsin, where he remained two years, afterward coming to Lincoln township and purchasing 120 acres, which he broke and improved, erecting some fine buildings. He now carries on general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of dairying. Mr. Carlson is well situated financially and is one of the substantial citizens of the county. He is serving his seventeenth year as school clerk and treasurer, but has never sought other public office, choosing rather to devote his time and attention to his home, his family and his farm. He is a stockholder in the Range creamery in Beaver township and stockholder in Polk

County Coöperative Company at Range. In politics he is a Republican and in religion he is a devout Lutheran. Mr. Carlson was married November 10, 1876, to Matilda Tulpan, born February 15, 1852, daughter of Gerton and Segrid Tulpan, to whom ten children have been born. They are: Charles E., born February 7, 1878; William M., born August 21, 1879; Jennie S., born April 30, 1883; Emil G., born June 22, 1885; C. Minnie M., born February 29, 1888; Alma M., born December 25, 1890; Otto A., born July 4, 1892; Joseph E., born June 7, 1894; John A., born April 26, 1897; Olaf A., born June 22, 1881, died September 11, 1887.

**William Corty** came from Italy to America in 1856 and located in Stillwater, Minn., following lumbering and sawmilling until 1873, when he came to Lincoln township, Polk county, Wisconsin, and homesteaded eighty acres, breaking the land and making many improvements. To this place he added from time to time until he now has 220 acres of land and carries on general farming, stock raising and dairying. He is independent in politics and a member of the Catholic church. For some four years he was postmaster at Lincoln Center, Wis., and has also served with distinction as director and clerk of the school board of district No. 4. Mr. Corty was married, June 21, 1857, to Antinette Levi, daughter of Lawrence and Mary Levi, natives of Italy. Five children of this union are still living: Joseph, Lawrence, Antinette, Adalaide and William. Mr. Corty is regarded as one of the prosperous men in the county.

**Bion A. De Golier** first saw the light of day in McHenry county, Illinois, April 24, 1857, son of Luther and Sophronia (Ingalsby) De Golier. He received his education in Bradford, Pa., and in Wisconsin, where his parents later moved. After leaving school he took up farming and carpentering and in 1878 bought a farm of eighty acres in Lincoln township, which he broke and improved, erected buildings, and doing diversified farming. In 1889 he went to Brown county, South Dakota, and remained one summer. In 1898 he sold his farm and purchased the old homestead, located in Lincoln township. The farm consists of eighty acres of well-developed land. Mr. De Golier carries on diversified farming operations with marked success. In 1905 he brick veneered his house, giving it a very pretty appearance. It is well kept throughout in a way which testifies to Mrs. De Golier's excellence as a housekeeper. The farm is considered one of the best in the township. Mr. De Golier was married November 3, 1880, to Ada E. Littlefield, of Clayton, Wis., born September 1, 1864, daughter of Henry N. and Adeline (Richards) Littlefield, now of North Dakota. This marriage was blessed with five children: Ralph E., born November 25, 1881; Clive L., born

August 23, 1883; Ora D., born February 25, 1887; Ray Clifford, born February 27, 1889; Ada E., born March 5, 1890, and died September 4 of the same year. Mrs. De Golier died May 10, 1890. Mr. De Golier was then married, December 8, 1891, to Elizabeth M. Bender, of Richland county, Wisconsin, born January 18, 1861, daughter of Jonas C. and Mary H. (Briggs) Bender, the former born July 19, 1836, and the latter September 21, 1835, dying November 9, 1901, and October 29, 1885, respectively. This marriage resulted in five children: Lena R., born December 17, 1892, and died December 31 of the same year; Ruby O., born December 25, 1893; Ivan L., born July 14, 1895; Hattie G., born February 13, 1897, and Geneva M., born May 10, 1899. Mr. De Golier is a Republican in politics and has been a director of the school board three years. He belongs to the Beavers Lodge in Amery, Wis., and is a member of the United Brethren church. Luther De Golier, father of our subject, was born in Prattsburg, Steuben county, N. Y., June 27, 1829, son of Abel De Golier. He lived in New York state and Pennsylvania in his earlier days and at the age of about eighteen started in life for himself. His knowledge of the carpenter's trade assisted him in purchasing a farm, to which he took his bride, Sophronia, daughter of John Ingalsby. The marriage, which occurred December 25, 1849, was blessed with six sons and two daughters. In 1868 he came to Wisconsin, stayed two years, returned to Pennsylvania again, but in 1872 located permanently in East Lincoln, Wis., building a home in the forest. An accident incapacitated him from hard labor and he engaged on a small scale in the mercantile business, afterward being appointed postmaster at East Lincoln. He died July 20, 1892, at the age of sixty-three years and twenty-three days. His wife was born in 1831 and died March 12, 1899, at the age of sixty-eight years.

**Nels P. Ericksen,** who was born in Denmark, August 5, 1840, and died October 26, 1885, was the son of Erik and Christine Larsen, both of whom are now deceased. The father was a farmer by occupation and died at the age of about forty years, while his wife passed away when about thirty-five years of age. Our subject was educated in the common schools of his native land and when fourteen years of age left school for the purpose of learning a trade. He first learned the trade of wheelwright and later that of carpenter. He followed his trade in Denmark until 1873, when he came to this country and homesteaded eighty acres in Lincoln township, Polk county, Wisconsin. He broke part of the land and built a house and barns, combining farm work with carpenter contracting. In politics Mr. Ericksen was a Republican and in religion a Lutheran. He was an honest, upright man, one who could always be relied on under all cir-

cumstances. Mr. Ericksen was married in 1868 to Bodil Marie Jensen, born May 1, 1850, and died November 9, 1877. To this union were born: Anna M. was born September 5, 1869, and married Julius Strougaard, of Merriam Park, Minn. Mr. Strougaard was born in Denmark, January 27, 1868. Coming to St. Paul, Minn., in April, 1887, he engaged in the retail grocery business and at the time of his death, December 13, 1896, by his energy and ability had become one of the leading as well as one of the largest retail grocers of St. Paul. His marriage with Anna M. Ericksen took place May 18, 1891. Lauritz, the second child of Mr. and Mrs. Ericksen, was born in 1871 and died the same year; Alfred G., born June 14, 1873, was married November 28, 1901, to Thora Marie Larsen and is engaged in business in Merriam Park, Minn., where he is a general contractor and builder.

**James Flanigan** was born in Wabasha county, Minnesota, August 5, 1860, son of John and Christine (Clark) Flanigan, of County Galloway, Ireland. The parents were farmers in the old country, coming to America in 1855, locating in Baltimore, Md., remaining three years, and then in 1858 locating in Wabasha county, Minnesota, where the father bought eighty acres of land, which he broke and improved, erecting a house and outbuildings. He carried on general farming, chiefly grain raising, until 1889, when he gave the farm to his son, James, and moved to the city of Wabasha, Minn., where he remained the rest of his life, passing away February 12, 1907. His wife is still living in Wabasha. James received his education in the schools of his native county and worked at various occupations, including one year at Moorhead, Minn., and two at Fargo, N. D. In 1888 he took up farming on the old homestead in Wabasha county, Minnesota, and in 1897 sold out and came to Lincoln township the following year, purchasing 120 acres of land. He later sold forty acres, retaining eighty acres, upon which he carries on general farming and stock raising. He has made many repairs on the place, has a comfortable house and roomy barns, and although a new comer, is greatly respected by his neighbors. He was assessor in 1903, is now serving his third term on the side board and has been clerk of school district No. 4 for five years. In politics he is a Republican, in religion a Congregationalist, and in fraternal affiliation both a Mason and a Woodman. Mr. Flanigan was married, June 15, 1889, to Mary Johnson, of Star Prairie, Wis., daughter of John and Christine (Arnquist) Johnson, of Little Falls, Wis. There are three children: Mabel, born March 10, 1890; Gertrude, born January 11, 1894, and Robert J., born February 3, 1907.

**Thomas T. Fowler** was born at Morrisburg, Ontario, March 24, 1880, son of James and Isabella (Kirkup) Fowler, the former

born in England, August 10, 1839, and the latter in the same country, February 14, 1839. They came to Ontario in 1864, where the father followed his trade of cabinet making, continuing until 1884, when they came to St. Paul, Minn., the father taking a position at his trade as foreman. In 1893 they came to Lincoln township, Wisconsin, and purchased a farm of 200 acres, which, with the assistance of his sons, the father broke and improved. James Fowler passed away, June 1, 1908, and his wife died April 27 of the same year. They had six sons: Thomas T., the subject of this sketch; Robert G., mentioned below; James W., born in 1872; William, born in 1875, and died in 1891; George K., now a farmer of Lincoln township, and John E., of St. Paul, Minn. The home farm is now run by the subject of this sketch and Robert G. under the title of the Fowler Brothers. They carry on general farming, raising small grains and the usual crops, making dairying a specialty and breeding Holstein-Fresian cattle. Thomas was married, May 18, 1905, to Anna Erickson, of Lincoln township, daughter of Alick and Sophia (Paulson) Erickson, of Lincoln township. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen, a stockholder in the Amery creamery, a Presbyterian in religion and a Republican in politics.

**Robert G. Fowler** is associated with his brother in the farming business. He was born in Morrisburg, Ontario, January 2, 1882. He has been manager of the Amery creamery, in which he is now a stockholder. He has also served as school clerk of district No. 1. Robert is a member of the Masonic order and the Modern Woodmen, a Republican in politics and a Presbyterian in faith. He is unmarried.

**Rev. John A. Gustafson,** pastor of the Swedish Lutheran parishes of Amery, Clayton, Star Prairie and New Richmond, is a man who fulfills the ideal of the village pastor, loving and fatherly in his ministrations to his people, and yet a fearless denouncer of the wrong and evil wherever located. He enjoys the affection of his people and the respect of all who know him. Mr. Gustafson was born in Sweden, May 12, 1863, son of C. J. and Christine (Johnson) Gustafson, the former of whom was born June 24, 1828, and the latter March 9, 1823. They came to America in 1866 and located in what was then Cannon Falls, in Goodhue county, Minn., where they farmed until 1870, then went to Nicollet county, Minn., bought eighty acres, which they broke and improved; later bought 160 more and still later 120 in addition, making 360 in all. In 1891 the father retired from active life and rented his farm to his son, William, with whom his widow still makes her home. He died August 12, 1901, and was followed to his grave by a large concourse of sorrowing mourners. John A. received his early education in the common schools

and then entered the Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter, Minn. In 1891 he was compelled to take a rest for his health and went to Sweden. In 1892 he came back to America and resumed his studies, graduating from the Augustanna Theological Seminary in 1894. He was ordained to the Christian ministry at St. Peter, Minn., June 10, 1894, being made a preacher in the Augustana Synod of the Swedish Lutheran church. His first charge was at Templeton, Cal., where he remained until December of 1898, when he located at Cloquet, Carlton county, Minn., as pastor of the church there. He then went to Marine, Minn., and stayed until June, 1904, when he came to Amery, taking up his present parishes and building a handsome residence. Rev. Gustafson was married September 6, 1894, at San Jose, Cal., to Anna A. Erickson, daughter of Gustaf Aaron and Hanna Peterson, the father being a banker and stock and grain buyer. Mrs. Gustafson was born November 28, 1868; her father was born November 29, 1831, and the mother March 26, 1834. Rev. and Mrs. Gustafson are the parents of five children: Paul J. A., born at Templeton, Cal., August 21, 1895; Hilding J. N., born at Marine, Minn., February 11, 1902; Rubert and Hilding, born August 6, 1897, at Morrow, Cal., and died November 6 and 8, 1897, and Harold J. T., born at Amery, Wis., June 8, 1905. Rev. Gustafson has three brothers and one sister: C. O., Oscar, William and Emma C., the latter married to John A. Johnson. Mrs. Gustafson has five brothers and one sister: Joseph, Josephine, married to Carl Rum; David, Joel, William and Oscar. The subject of this sketch is a Prohibitionist in politics and is now vice-president of the Chisago missionary district.

**Thomas Guanella** is a native of Campodolcina, born June 9, 1832, son of Thomas and May (Predrone) Guanella, natives of sunny Italy, where they lived and died. Thomas received his education in the schools of his native province, and in 1855 came to America, locating first at Galena, Ill., rafting on the Mississippi river for two years. He then went to Stillwater, Minn., working in a sawmill for ten years, coming to Lincoln township in April, 1866, and homesteading eighty acres. To this he added forty acres and still later sixty-six acres, making 186 in all. He broke and improved the land and has since continued to carry on general farming, raising small grains, breeding stock and horses and paying particular attention to dairying. Mr. Guanella is a Democrat and a member of the Catholic church. His public services have included terms on the school board and on the side board. He has been a hard worker all his life and has brought up a large family of children, giving them all the advantages of good education. He

was married, June 21, 1857, to Catherine Levi, of Italy, born August 4, 1836, daughter of Lawrence and Mary (Ursula) Levi, the latter of whom came to this country and died March 16, 1902, at the advanced age of ninety-eight years. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Guanella's children are: Mary, born July 6, 1858, and died April 15, 1859; Mary (2), born June 27, 1859; Ursula, born October 27, 1860, married Thomas Jones; Matilda, born June 10, 1862; Thomas, born May 19, 1864, married Catherine Donohue; Catherine, born April 18, 1866, married to George Jones; Lawrence, born January 31, 1868, and died May 24, 1876; Martha, born September 15, 1869, married to Thomas Ball; Dora, born February 4, 1871, married to Seth Thompson; Joseph, born April 2, 1873, married to Mary Summerfield; Clara, born November 30, 1875, married to John York; Ernest, born August 2, 1877, and Albert, born June 15, 1880, married to Ethel Wadsworth.

**Theodore L. Hansen** has the honor of having served eighteen years as postmaster of Volga, Lincoln township, Wis., which settlement he named. He is a native of Denmark, son of Louis and Johannah (Rasmussen) Hansen, the father being a miller, baker and ship builder. Louis Hansen was born in 1795 and died in 1872, while his wife was born in 1796 and died in 1873. Theodore received his education in Denmark and after leaving school followed the sea for fourteen years. He landed in New York in 1868, went to Waushara county, Wisconsin, bought eighty acres, sold out in 1869 and went to Oshkosh, Wis., working in the sawmills and sailing on Lake Winnebago. In 1870 he came to Lincoln township and homesteaded eighty-eight acres of land, which he broke and improved, doing general farming and clerking at Lincoln Center five years. He traded the farm for his present farm in 1876. At that time his place consisted of 120 acres, but he has sold from time to time until he now owns forty acres in the settlement of Volga. He was the first postmaster of Volga, the postoffice being in his general store. Mr. Hansen was married November 11, 1868, to Mary Erickson, daughter of Erick and Christine Larson, natives of Denmark. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have had seven children: Julinia was born March 9, 1865, and married John Hansen, a farmer of Eureka township, Wisconsin; Alfred was born March 27, 1870, and died June 27 of the same year; Octavia J. was born April 26, 1871, and married Andrew Jones, a farmer of Lincoln township, Wisconsin; Lauritz O., born January 13, 1874, and died November 14, ten years later; Victor A., of whom mention is found below; Cora H., born February 20, 1880, and died November 20, 1884; Edna, born March 25, 1884, and died December 25 of the same year. Mr. Hansen is a stockholder in the

Volga creamery, having been its first president. He is independent in politics; has been school treasurer four years, town clerk fifteen years and notary public sixteen years. He is a member of the Free church.

**Victor A. Hansen** has run the home farm for the past two years. He was born October 16, 1878, educated in the public schools and married to Minnie Lundgren, by whom he has three children: Ilamay A., born September 18, 1900; Royce B., born August 10, 1904; Glen E., born October 19, 1906. Victor is a bee fancier and has an apiary of 110 colonies of bees. He is serving his sixth year as town clerk and second year as school clerk, filling both positions with much satisfaction to his fellow citizens.

**Andrew A. Jones** was born in Iowa county, Wisconsin, November 22, 1861, son of William R. and Mary (Lanigan) Jones, farmers of Prince Edward Island, Canada. They went to Iowa county, Wisconsin, then came to Lincoln township, November 26, 1867, and homesteaded eighty acres of land, breaking and improving the place and carrying on general farming. The father was born June 13, 1825, and still lives on the old homestead. The mother was born February 9, 1825, and died December 13, 1893. Andrew A. received his education in the schools of Lincoln township and then spent eighteen years threshing and lumbering. He subsequently purchased 120 acres and later added eighty more, improving the land and carrying on general farming and stock raising. He has made a great success of his farming operations and is now regarded as one of the leading men of his neighborhood. He was married, June 23, 1892, to Octavia Hansen, daughter of T. L. and Maria (Erickson) Hansen, natives of Denmark, of whom a sketch will be found elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Jones was born April 26, 1871. They have three children: Cora E., born April 20, 1894; Lester N., born September 1, 1895; Alvin T., born March 14, 1899. Mr. Jones is a Republican in politics and has served as town treasurer for six years, still occupying that position. He has been school clerk three years, succeeding his wife. He is a member of the Beavers, of Amery, Wis., and worships at the Baptist church.

**George J. Jones** was born in Iowa county, Wisconsin, February 9, 1859, son of William R. and Mary, of whom a sketch will be found in this history. George J. received his education in the public schools, having come to Lincoln township, Wisconsin, with his parents at the age of eight years. After leaving school he continued farming on the old homestead until twenty-five years of age, when he purchased eighty acres of land in Lincoln township near his father's farm. He broke

the land and made all improvements, including a fine large barn built in 1901 and a brick residence built in 1904, which is well furnished throughout. Mr. Jones carries on general farming, but makes a specialty of dairying, at which he has been very successful. Mr. Jones was married, July 26, 1883, to Catherine Guanella. She was born in Stillwater, Minnesota, April 18, 1866, daughter of Thomas and Kate (Levi) Guanella. This union has been blessed with sixteen children, as follows: Bertha E., born January 27, 1884; George E., born May 4, 1885; Mary C., born December 16, 1886; Dora E., born March 11, 1888; Ophelia, born January 14, 1890; Adelia, born same day, died September 19, 1890; Lauretta, born June 28, 1891; Martha A., born September 18, 1894; Harold E., born March 15, 1893, and died June 3 of the same year; Herbert A., born September 23, 1896; Gertrude F., born March 5, 1899; Leon A., born March 27, 1901; Levitta R., born September 2, 1903; Burnilda J., October 25, 1904; Clara E., born February 14, 1906, and Edward J., born January 9, 1908. Bertha married Charles Adama; Mary C. married John Fox, and Dora E. married Albert Erickson. Mr. Jones is a Republican in politics and has been on the side board seven years, school director eleven years and assessor one year, all in Lincoln township. He belongs to the Beavers' society and attends the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Jones is a member of the Catholic church.

**William R. Jones** is a native of Prince Edward Island, Canada, born June 13, 1825, son of James and Ann (Richards) Jones, natives of England. They came to Prince Edward Island about 1810, where the mother died in 1831. The father came to Iowa county, this state, with his son in 1848, passing away in 1868 at the age of eighty-four.

William R. received his education in the schools of his native province and came to this country with his father, purchasing 120 acres in Iowa county. February 10, 1865, he enlisted from Madison, Wis., in Company A, Forty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving under Capt. Charles E. Hull and Colonel Fallows, receiving his discharge at Madison in November, 1865. Shortly afterward he returned to his farm at Ridgeway, Iowa county, and continued farming until 1867, when he homesteaded 160 acres in Lincoln township, breaking the land and making general improvements. In 1893, after carrying on general farming for many years, he retired and turned the management of the farm over to his son, Harvey E. A Republican in politics, he served the township as supervisor for fourteen years and was a director on the school board three years. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and belongs to the G. A. R. Mr. Jones has been a hard working,

industrious man, and all the success that he has achieved has been due entirely to his own efforts. In 1908 a disastrous fire broke out, September 10, which destroyed a 24x100 barn, with fifty tons of hay, harnesses, tools, horses and other property. The barn will be rebuilt.

Mr. Jones was married, December 23, 1850, at Blue Mound, Ill., to Mary, daughter of Thomas and Ann (McKinsey) Lanigan, natives of Prince Edward Island. This union was blessed with seven children: Bridget, born April 22, 1852, married J. J. Jones; Thomas J. was born October 26, 1857; George J. was born February 9, 1859; Ann was born August 7, 1860, and married James Preble; Andrew A. was born November 22, 1862; William was born September 23, 1865, and Harvey E. was born March 8, 1867. Mrs. Mary Jones passed away at the old homestead, December 13, 1893.

**Herman Kelnstin** is a native of Germany, born May 16, 1866. He came to America with his mother, Mrs. Dora Kelnstin, in 1876, and was brought up in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where she settled for a time, receiving his education in the schools of that place. He then lived at Hammond, St. Croix county, Wis., and remained until 1904, in which year he bought a farm of 120 acres in Lincoln township, Polk county. He broke and developed the land and has since been engaged in general farming, stock raising and dairying. He has met with great success and his stock shows the result of painstaking care and attention. His land is good and the buildings well kept. Mr. Kelnstin was married, August 26, 1889, to Mary D. Knipfel, of Hammond, Wis., daughter of Henry and Maggie (Wagondorf) Knipfel, farmers of that place. Two children have been born: Henry, born May 19, 1890, and Ray, born August 29, 1896, both of whom are at home. Mr. Kelnstin is a Republican in politics and was path master in Hammond township, Wisconsin, for nine years. He is a popular member of Amery Lodge, No. 301, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and president of the American Society of Equity of East Lincoln, Wis. He attends the Congregational church. He is a good citizen, a lover of good books and a believer in education.

**Sander Larson** first saw the light of day in Sweden, February 27, 1863, son of Lars Swanson and Anna Olson, the former of whom was born in 1826 and died in 1868. The mother died in 1870. Sander received his early education in his native country and served in the Swedish cavalry for three years. In 1888 he came to Lincoln township and took up work railroading and helped build the "Soo" line through the place where Amery is now located, also railroading for a time in the Black Hills. In 1903 he came to Lincoln township, bought eighty acres of land, broke and improved the ground, erected buildings and has since

continued to carry on general farming, dairying being his principal industry. Mr. Larson has been supervisor of Lincoln township for five years, treasurer of school district No. 3 eight years, president of Lincoln Cemetery Association nine years and agent for the Alden & Black Mutual Fire Insurance Company for some time. He is hard working and industrious, a good citizen and a good neighbor. He votes the Republican ticket. Mr. Larson was married, December 23, 1893, to Paulina J. Martinson, of Pierce county, Wisconsin, daughter of Martin Martinson and Sarah Hanson, who are still living. This union has been blessed with three children: Celia A., born June 20, 1896, and died June 20, 1898; Oscar W., born October 30, 1896, and Celia A., born March 6, 1899. The parents are members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

**Charles A. Lindgren** was born in Sweden, March 25, 1864, son of John and Mary Lindgren, natives of Sweden. The father was a carpenter, which trade he followed until coming to America in 1869, locating in Center City, Chisago county, Minn. In 1871 he came to Lincoln township and in 1878 purchased 102 acres, to which he afterward added forty more, making 142 in all, upon which he carried on general farming until 1898, when he retired and turned the management of the place over to his son. He is still living, having reached the age of seventy-eight, October 8, 1908. His wife died May 10, 1902, at the age of seventy-two years. Charles A. received his education in the common schools and farmed with his father until 1898, when he took the old homestead. He now carries on general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of dairying. He was married in this township, April 25, 1895, to Emily Hockson, daughter of John and Ellen D. Hockson, of Lincoln township, Wisconsin. The children are: Frank W., born February 19, 1896; John L., born April 29, 1897; Alice M., born December 28, 1900; Allen R., born September 8, 1903, and Glenn G., born November 27, 1906. Mr. Lindgren is a Republican in politics and a member of the Lutheran church. He affiliates with the American Society of Equity and has served on the board of side supervisors for four years with much credit.

**Jens Peder Pedersen** was born in Denmark, May 1, 1847, son of Pedersen Larsen and Christine Maria, natives of Denmark. The father died in 1848 and the mother is also deceased. Jens received his education in the schools of Denmark and farmed until 1877, when he came to America and farmed at Rain Lake, Ia., until 1879, and then went to Lake Park, Ia., staying until 1888. In that year he purchased 160 acres in Round Lake, Minn., broke and improved the land and farmed until 1898, when he sold the farm and bought 240 acres in Lincoln township, broke the land, made general improvements, built a nice house and large barns and now carries on general farming, raising small

grains and live stock. He is a Republican in politics, but has never sought office, choosing rather to devote his time and attention to his farm and his family, of both of which he has reason to be proud. Our subject was married in 1874 and has eight children: Peter (deceased), Chris, Christina, Jane (deceased), Charles, Rasmus, William and Mary. The wife died in May, 1896, in Round Lake, Minn., and Mr. Pedersen was married, March 21, 1899, to Eliza Johnson, of Round Lake, Minn. Her parents were natives of Norway, who settled in America and are now deceased. By this union there are two children: Herbert C. and Harvey K. The family religion is that of the Lutheran church.

**James P. Peterson** was born in Denmark, June 22, 1857, son of Peter and Marie Olson, natives of Denmark, the former being still living, the latter having passed away in 1902.

James P. received his education in the old country and farmed with his father until coming to this country at the age of twenty years. In 1879 he bought 200 acres in Black Brook township, Polk county, Wisconsin, thirty-five of which he broke and improved, building a house and barns, following general farming until the fall of 1882. Shortly afterward he came to Lincoln township and purchased 120 acres near the limits of the village of Amery. He cut up twenty-two acres for building lots, retaining a little over ninety-seven acres for his farm. He combines farming with a successful brick-making industry, having operated a brick yard for fourteen years. He has made a specialty of Shropshire sheep, of which he has 100. Mr. Peterson is a Republican in politics, being now treasurer of the village of Amery. He has served as village alderman, village assessor, school clerk and justice of the peace. He fraternizes with the Masons. Mr. Peterson was married, April 16, 1878, to Christina Johnson, daughter of Jorgen Friis Johnson, of Denmark. This union has been blessed with seven children: Margaret, Mary, Laura, Bertha, Jennie and two boys, who died in infancy.

**James A. Preble** is a native of Vassalboro, Me., born September 1, 1850. His parents, Eli and Martha J. Preble, were born in that state, the former October 28, 1820, and the latter September 25, 1825. The father followed farming and lumbering until 1853, when he located in Prescott, Pierce county, Wis., purchasing 160 acres, which he broke and improved. In 1859 he sold the farm and went to Pike's Peak, crossing the plains with "Kit" Carson, whose team he drove. After eighteen months in the West he returned to Prescott, Wis., and did general work until 1862, when he joined the Union army, serving in Company F, Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He did good service and was discharged in 1863. Coming back to this section of the

country, he ran the mail route between Prescott and Hudson, Wis., in 1865, and then moved to Balsam Lake, Polk county, Wis. For three years he ran a sawmill, then pre-empted eighty acres in Lincoln township, Polk county, Wis., afterward going to North Dakota, where he took up 160 acres. In 1906 he came back to Lincoln township and lived with his son, James A., until his death, April 24, 1908. His wife died February 8, 1906. James A. received his education in the public schools of Prescott, Wis., and worked in the woods and on the river until twenty-six years of age, then doing general work for several years until 1888, when he first rented and afterward purchased eighty acres in Lincoln township, Wisconsin, which he now conducts, carrying on general farming. He was married, June 19, 1881, to Anna Jones, born August 7, 1860, daughter of William and Mary (Lanigan) Jones, whose sketch is found elsewhere in this work. This union has been blessed with eleven children: Eli W. was born February 10, 1882; Mary, January 6, 1884; Myrtle, June 27, 1885; Frances, January 14, 1887; Alta, November 4, 1889; Stella, May 9, 1891; Irma, January 21, 1893; Lloyd, September 30, 1895; Alice, March 22, 1898; Ramona, January 12, 1902, and Leroy, August 31, 1904. Mr. Preble is a Republican in politics and has been road overseer three terms. He is a Mason, both he and his wife being members of the Eastern Star. The family religion is that of the Baptist church.

**John A. Porter** is a native of Taylors Falls, Minn., born February 26, 1858. His parents, John J. and Catherine Porter, were natives of Scotland and Ireland, respectively. The father located in Maine at the age of twenty-one, engaging two years in lumbering. He then took a crew of eighty-seven men to the Isthmus of Panama. They built two steamships and operated them on the Shagre river, furnishing supplies to the gold seekers. All took the yellow fever, only seven surviving. He then returned to New Orleans, where he himself contracted that dread disease. He recovered and enlisted in the Mexican war, serving until its close. Coming northward, he first landed in Minneapolis in 1848 and worked on the St. Croix river, lumbering, until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted in Company C, Eighth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving until discharged at Fort Snelling by order of Major Gus Pope. In 1865 he returned to Stillwater, Minn., and in the fall of that year came to Lincoln township, Wis., homesteading 120 acres of land, breaking, clearing and improving it, and erecting a dwelling, barns and outbuildings, carrying on general farming until his death, April 23, 1878. His wife died March 2, 1898. John A. received a common school education, worked on the farm with his father and then took up lumbering, farming and the real estate business. In

1898 he bought out the other heirs and took possession of the old homestead, making some improvements and carrying on general farming and stock raising. He is a Democrat in politics; has been chairman of the township board several years, assessor twelve years, justice of the peace and school clerk. Mr. Porter was married, September 7, 1881, to Margaret Cain, daughter of Alexander and Charlotte Cain. There are four children: Catherine H., born January 4, 1889, married to George Kinney; John C., born June 3, 1893; Margaret G., born June 6, 1897, and William R., born June 28, 1899.

**Ferdinand Revard** first saw the light of day in Somerset township, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, October 28, 1870, son of T. O. and Mary Revard, natives of Canada. The father was a carpenter and one of the first settlers of Somerset, where in the early days he took up 120 acres of land, later added 200 more and now carries on general farming and stock raising, being still active and hale and hearty, although well along in years. Ferdinand received his education in the district schools and remained with his father until 1895, when he took up logging and lumbering for several years. In 1898 he purchased 160 acres in Lincoln township, which he improved and developed, erecting a fine residence and commodious outbuildings. In 1905 he built a barn 30x50 feet for the housing of his stock. He has seventy acres of land under the plow and, like his father, he carries on general farming and stock raising. Mr. Revard was married July 13, 1898, to Mary Carpenter, of Apple River, Wis., daughter of Louis and Lizzie Carpenter, natives of Canada, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Revard have five children: Frankie, born August 14, 1899, died December 14, 1904; Flavius was born January 24, 1901; Elsie was born June 25, 1902; Joseph was born May 15, 1904, and Reta was born December 29, 1905.

**Nels Simley,** proprietor of Park Lake Farm, on the Park lake, in Lincoln township, is a native of Norway, born February 6, 1859, son of Ole and Ingri (Mainingen) Simley, also natives of Norway, the father, however, being of German descent. The father was a tailor by trade and the mother did considerable missionary work. They came to America in 1865, located in Dane county, this state, bought a farm of 120 acres in Black Earth, which they broke and improved, carrying on general farming until the time of the father's death in 1893. His widow still survives. Ole Simley was born June 16, 1810, and his wife first saw the light of day February 4, 1825. They were the parents of eight children: Marit, deceased; Maria, married to Thorsten Arniss; Throng, deceased; Ingri, deceased; Carrie; Maria, married to Ole Granum; Bertha; Marit, married to George Freman; Iver, and Nels. Nels attended the public and evening schools at

Black Earth, also farming with his father until 1890, when he bought a farm of 160 acres at Black Earth, which he broke and improved, repairing the buildings and carrying on general farming and dairying, engaging quite extensively in tobacco raising. In 1899 he took a trip to Europe, visiting the scenes of his childhood, and upon his return bought a farm of 200 acres in Lincoln township, which he now conducts. He built a beautiful home and fine outbuildings, and in 1906 erected a 36x90 barn, valued at $3,000. Upon this place he conducts farming on an extensive scale with great success.

Mr. Simley was married, May 29, 1890, to Karn Bjelbe, of Mount Horab, Dane county, this state, daughter of Andrew and Anna Bjelbe, prominent farmers of Mt. Horab, born June 11, 1866. Her father and mother are both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Simley are the parents of five children: Anna, born January 16, 1891; Ole, born December 16, 1892; Isaac T., born August 19, 1897; Esther, born August 15, 1900, and Ingri, born August 23, 1902. Mr. Simley is a Republican in politics. He is serving his sixth term as chairman of Lincoln township and is register of deeds for Polk county. He is both a stockholder and secretary of the Amery Creamery Association. His religion is that of the Norwegian Lutheran and his fraternity the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. Simley is a hard working man, a believer in education and a good citizen. Mrs. Simley has three brothers: Ole, Andrew and Iver.

**Nels Spangberg** was born in Sweden, February 15, 1852. His parents were Gustaf and Christina (Rosenquist) Spangberg, the former of whom was a farmer and blacksmith jobber, owning a big shop and over 1,000 acres of land. The father died in 1890 and the mother passed away eight years later. Nels received his education in the schools of Sweden and worked with his father until 1880, when he came to America and located at Taylors Falls, Minn., working on the railroad. He then worked at Minneapolis and Stillwater, Minn., coming to Lincoln township in 1888 and purchasing eighty acres of land, which he has since increased to 160 acres. He carries on general farming and stock raising. In 1906 he built a new house, valued at $2,000, and he also has a 200-foot drilled well. He is a Republican in politics; has been clerk of school district No. 2, and attends the Lutheran church. He was married, October 24, 1888, to Louise Edman, of Balsam Lake, Wis., by whom he had one son, John E., born October 26, 1889. His first wife died in May, 1891, and his present wife was Enga Carlson, of Amery, Wis. Mr. Spangberg has been prosperous and successful and carries on his business in an up-to-date and systematic manner.

**Theodore Z. Swanson** is a native of Wexio, Sweden, born September 6, 1873, son of Swan M. Glader and Christine Johnson, both born in Sweden, the former on April 25, 1829, and the latter October 15, 1831, both being still alive. The father was a shoemaker, of which occupation he made a marked success. Theodore Z. received a good education in the schools of both Sweden and America. He learned the trade of shoemaker with his father and upon coming to America in 1892 followed the same line of work, being engaged with Foot, Schulze & Co. at St. Paul until 1905. In that year he came to Amery and opened a general store, which carries a large stock of clothing and shoes for both men and women. This business has proven successful and is one of Amery's hustling commercial places. Mr. Swanson is a member of the North Star Benefit Association. For two years he was president of the "Observatory" of St. Paul, Minn., and in 1905 he had the great honor and privilege of being one of the delegates to the national convention of that order, held at Joliet, Ill. He is also a member of the Bethesda Benefit Society, of St. Paul. In church circles he has also taken a prominent part. In 1906 he was elected to the office of treasurer and trustee of the Swedish Lutheran church at Amery to serve for a term of three years. He is a teacher in the Sunday school and vice president of the Young People's society. He is an affable salesman and a keen purchaser, having already won for himself a reputation for business integrity and honor. Mr. Swanson was married July 2, 1898, to Hilda S. Johnson, of West Sweden, Wis., daughter of John Peterson and Anna Johnson, the former born in 1832 and the latter September 5, 1836, being well known residents of West Sweden. This union has been blessed with four children: Agnes S., born May 13, 1900; Esther C., born November 19, 1902; Carl W., born April 11, 1905, and Hilda E., born April 21, 1908. Mr. Swanson votes the prohibition ticket.

**Seth Thompson** first saw the light of day in Ellsworth, Me., July 10, 1865, son of W. D. and Sarah Thompson, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this history. He received his education in the common schools of Lincoln township, Wisconsin, and engaged in lumbering and farming until 1889, when he purchased 200 acres in Lincoln township, improving the land and doing general farming and stock raising. In 1904 he built a fine new barn, and in addition to his other work he keeps a colony of bees, including Italians and Blacks. He is a Republican and has never sought public office, although he has been persuaded by his friends to become a director of the school board. He has been a hard working man all his life, and all his efforts have been crowned with success. Mr. Thompson was married June 13, 1889, to Dora Guanella, daughter of Thomas Guanella, of

whom a sketch is found in this history. The children are: Leslie F., Ralph, William, Celia, Albert and Richard, all of whom are at home.

**William F. Volbrecht** is a native of Germany, born December 18, 1871, son of Charles and Minnie (Byer) Volbrecht. The father served in the German war a number of years and came to America in 1873, locating in Illinois, where his wife died. He remained there one year, afterward living successively in Iowa and Nebraska. In the latter state he bought 160 acres of land which he broke and improved, later renting his farm to his two sons and taking up his residence in Oakland, Neb. He died at the general hospital in Omaha, Neb., in the month of June, 1907. William F. received his education in the schools of Nebraska, took up farming with his father, and finally ran the home farm in partnership with his brother. In 1895 he went to Iowa and developed an eighty-acre farm, coming to Lincoln township, Wisconsin, in 1905. Here he bought 160 acres of land, which he broke, cleared and improved. He repaired the old house on the place, and in 1908 erected a large new barn with cistern and well. He carries on general farming and stock raising. Mr. Volbrecht was married September 26, 1895, to Minnie Volbright, daughter of Fred and Caroline (Helvick) Volbright, of Riceville, Ia. There are two children: Julia Carolina, born October 25, 1897, and Clarence Fred, born February 11, 1901. The subject of this sketch is a Republican in politics and has served as clerk of School District No. 1. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

**John G. Wilson** is a native of this county, born in Osceola, Wis., June 17, 1867, son of William and Leah (Moody) Wilson, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of the state of Pennsylvania. The father came to Wisconsin in the late '40s, and was a cook on the river for some years. He then moved to Osceola, Wis., and in 1870 came to Lincoln township and bought 280 acres of land. To this he added from time to time until he owned 440 acres. He broke the land and made general improvements, erecting buildings and carrying on general farming. For two years he was treasurer of the county and for several terms was deputy sheriff of the county. For many years he was postmaster at East Lincoln, and, in fact, was a representative citizen in every respect. He is now deceased and his widow makes her home with her son, the subject of this sketch. John received his early education in Lincoln township. After leaving school he took up farming with his father, an occupation which he has since continued with great success on the old homestead. He does general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of dairying. Mr. Wilson was married to Soretta Herring, of Lincoln township, daughter of Edwin and Soretta (Cain) Herring, by whom he has

had ten children: Dora, Nina, Edith, Elda, Kenneth, Neil, Leah, an infant; Gladys, Ruth and Elma. Mr. Wilson is a Republican in politics and is now road overseer and a director of his school district. The family faith is that of the United Brethren.

## VILLAGE OF AMERY.

Amery village has the distinction of being the largest and most up-to-date village in Polk county. The site of the village is ideal, having the Apple river for power for its mills, electric lights, etc., and on the west having three of Wisconsin's finest lakes, the shores of which furnish sites for fine homes. The first real improvements were made in 1887, when the "Soo" road was built through, the village laid out, and a sawmill operated by John Briggs. The next improvement was a hotel, operated by L. J. Robbins. The first mercantile establishment was opened by Webb & Griffin. In 1888 the real building began on the north side of the track, which soon became the location of all business. The greatest building period and industrial growth followed in the years 1888 to 1893, among the additions at that time being the sawmill of Johnston & Howe, furnishing employment to many men, mercantile buildings, erected by J. G. Burman, W. H. Holliday; a feed mill by E. J. Schneider, and many smaller improvements. A newspaper, "The Free Press," was established, the paper now being edited by B. R. Atwood. A complete system of water works, established at that time has since been extended to cover the entire village, and an up-to-date electric light and telephone system has been established by the Amery Electric Company.

During the period of 1893 to 1902 the village saw little improvement, the county being in a transition stage from a lumber country to a farming region, but the years following have seen a steady growth and improvement, and many new residences and business buildings have been erected, among them being the new Bank of Amery building, and the Polk County Coöperative Company store, which has the distinction of being the largest and finest mercantile building in the county. The Farmers and Merchants' State bank, organized in 1906, erected a new stone and brick building, which in finish and equipment would be a credit to a city of 5,000 people. The village has five churches, a state high school in a new modern building and a good grammar school in a spearate building with a corps of ten teachers, offering as good educational advantages as any village in the state. All lines of trade are well represented, the business men are hustlers, the citizens are awake to improve and benefit the village, and with the splendid and rapidly developing country around it, nothing but a bright future can be seen for this village.

The village has a population of about 1,000, and in addition to the advantages mentioned above, it has a lumber company, a photograph gallery, two hotels, one store, carrying hardware, furniture and farming implements; one grocery and feed store, two meat markets, one store dealing in groceries and notions, one drug store, three clothing stores, three saloons, seven general stores, one tailor, one tanner, two blacksmiths, one restaurant, two millinery establishments, one dealer in flour and grain, one plumber, a branch of the Osceola Mill and Elevator Company, one harness shop. The secret societies are represented by lodges of Masons, Eastern Star, Odd Fellows, Daughters of Rebekah, Woodmen, Royal Neighbors, Grand Army and Womens' Relief Corps. Amery lies in the heart of a section with rich agricultural possibilities. The soil is rich and well watered, with abundance of timber and natural grass. As these lands are developed and production is increased Amery will become a great primary market for farm products. The farms in the immediate vicinity of Amery are fairly well developed, but a few miles to the north, and tributary to this village, there are many unimproved farms that need but a breaking of the soil to produce in abundance the necessaries of life.

**The Bank of Amery** commenced business May 15, 1893, as a chartered state bank, with $15,000 paid up capital. Its officers were: President, Thomas H. Thompson; vice president, George F. Griffin; cashier, L. Q. Olcott. The same officers have been continued to the present time with the addition since 1904 of Mary Peterson as assistant cashier. The capital was increased to $20,000 in 1907, and it has an earned surplus of $4,000 with deposits of $100,000. It owns and occupies a handsome brick building, erected in 1905, at a cost of $4,000.

**The Farmers' and Merchants' State bank** was organized at Amery January 29, 1906, the organizers being H. J. Soper, J. G. Burman and Charles H. Oakey, who had associated with them twenty-five of the most prominent business men of Amery and vicinity. The first officers were J. G. Burman, president; C. H. Oakey, vice president; and H. J. Soper, cashier. All these officers still act in their original capacity. They are all men well known throughout the locality, having been long residents here—men who, by honorable business methods, have built up solid reputations and fortunes. The bank was organized with a capital of $15,000, and has paid annual dividends of 8 per cent to its stockholders and accumulated a surplus of $1,000, a total net earning of nearly $5,000 in three years. In 1907 it became apparent that the quarters were too small, and arrangements were made to erect a building of its own which should be ample for the needs of the bank for years to come, and be a credit to the institution

and the town. In 1908 this building was erected and furnished at a cost of about $7,000. The front is of Port Wing brownstone, and the interior finish is mahogany. The building is lighted with gas and electricity, has a public room for the use of customers, and is a model of convenience and comfort for the patrons. The bank has had a rapid and substantial growth, now having deposits of over $100,000, and total resources of over $120,000. This rapid growth being the direct result of the coöperation of the stockholders and customers. The constant policy of the bank's officers is the most courteous and liberal treatment consistent with absolute safety, and the best indication of the results and success of such a policy is that the bank, while one of the youngest, stands third in rank in size among the twelve banks in Polk county, those larger having been in business fifteen to twenty years longer. The complete list of officers and directors is as follows: J. G. Burman, C. H. Oakey, H. J. Soper, W. W. Winchester, Gentz Perry, H. T. Lund, Gust Paulson, E. W. Carlson, T. O. Winger, A. J. Anderson and Nels Simley.

**J. G. Burman** is one of the men who have helped to build up the village of Amery, Wis., and his efforts have always been used in behalf of every movement which has tended to the betterment and progress of the community. He was born in Sweden in November, 1862, son of John W. Burman. He came to the United States in 1882, and for a time he followed various labor at Stillwater, Minn. In 1888 he came to Amery and engaged in the furniture and undertaking business. At that time there were but few houses in what is now the village of Amery, and Mr. Burman showed his faith in the future of the place by investing his money in business here. Later he added an implement department to his store, and still later the hardware line was added. Some years ago he built his present big store, and has since continued one of the leading men of Amery. He helped to organize the Farmers' and Merchants' bank, of Amery, and has been its president since 1906. For twelve years he was postmaster of Amery, and his other public offices have included those of school treasurer and village councilman. Mr. Burman was married in 1886 to Annie Hagdahl, and some time after her death to Anna Iverson. By his first marriage he has three children: Lillian, Rudolph and Jennie, and by his second wife, one son—John J. The family religion is that of the Swedish Lutheran church.

**John C. Dahl** was born in Norway, August 24, 1866, son of Christian and Helen Dahl, natives of Norway, who came to the United States in 1887 and settled in Dane county, Wisconsin. John C. received his education in his native country and came to America in 1883, locating in Dane county, Wisconsin, engaging

in raising tobacco. In 1890 he came to Amery village and engaged in lumbering and sawmilling until 1901, when he opened up a store, handling general merchandise. This business he has followed ever since, building up a fine trade, and securing the confidence of the people with whom he has business dealings. At the present time he has a partner, the store being carried on under the name of Dahl and Olson. Mr. Dahl is independent in politics and attends the Norwegian Lutheran church. Christian Dahl, father of John C., was born August 12, 1815, and died January 6, 1896. His wife was born February 2, 1842, and is still living, making her home with the subject of this sketch. They had two children, aside from John C.: Sophia was born December 13, 1874, and married B. Christenson, to whom she has borne the following seven children: Clarence H., Cora A., Sophia B., Isabelle, Manley, Rudolph and Harris; Hulda is married, and has one child, Hazel.

**Henry Avery Holliday** was born in Calumet county, Wisconsin, June 23, 1863, and was reared on a farm. He began his career as a teacher. At the age of twenty-two he entered the college of physicians and surgeons in Chicago, Ill., from which he was graduated in 1888. At once upon obtaining his degree he located at Amery, Wis., where he remained until the time of his death, attaining wide distinction in the practice of his profession. He was both skilled and gentle and his years of ministration to the sick and suffering gave him a warm place in the hearts of every one in the village and surrounding country side. In 1891 he was married to Alice Estelle Francisco, of Lake City, Minn., daughter of Oliver P. and Martha (Baker) Francisco. Her father now lives on a farm, at the age of seventy-nine years. He is skilled with the violin and is a teacher of music, still devoting much time to his favorite violin in spite of his increasing years. Mr. and Mrs. Holliday were blessed with one daughter, Ruth, who is now (in 1908) about seventeen years of age. She is attending the Villa-Maria academy at Frontenac, Minn. Dr. Holliday passed away April 20, 1900. His death was a genuine bereavement to the community in which he lived. He was not only a leader in his profession, but also active in town affairs, holding many positions of public trust and honor. For several years he was president of the village council. He was a Mason and an honored member of the Eastern Star, the Odd Fellows and the Rebekah lodges.

Mrs. Holliday married for her second husband John Langenbach, whose sketch will be found in this volume.

**John E. Langenbach** was born in Martell, Pierce county, Wis., September 18, 1860, son of Benjamin and Margaret (Wolfel) Langenbach, natives of Germany. They came to America in the '40s and located at St. Louis, Mo., where the father followed his

H. A. HOLLIDAY

trade of shoemaking for several years, then moved to River Falls, Wis., in 1859, built a beautiful home, engaged in his trade for a time, subsequently took up the meat business, still later going to Rush River, Wis., and homesteading 160 acres. After living in Stillwater, Minn., a year he went to Osceola, Wis., and purchased eighty acres, which he broke and improved, carrying on general farming until 1898, when he sold his farm and retired, dying in February, 1899. The widow still lives at Osceola. John E. received his education at Osceola, after which he took up lumbering in the woods and on the river for thirteen years. He then bought an elevator at Osceola and entered into the grain and stock business. In 1897 he came to Amery and bought an interest in the Northern Supply and Grain Company, with which concern he is now engaged, being its president. He is a stockholder in the Bank of Amery, and in the Red Wing Sewer Pipe Company, of Red Wing, Minn., and also owns a beautiful residence on Birch street in this village. Mr. Langenbach is a prosperous business man and is much interested in the growth and development of the village, township and county, always ready to shoulder his share in any public movement for the good of the community. He was married in 1889 to Lucy Wurst, daughter of Martin Wurst, of Farmington, this county. He was next married October 16, 1906, to Mrs. Alice E. Holliday, of Amery, this county. Mr. Langenbach votes the Republican ticket and he and his wife are members of the Episcopal church.

**Paul S. Newman** is a native of Farmington township, born February 10, 1871, son of Stephen and Marie (Degler) Newman, natives of Germany, who came to America in 1861. They located first at Columbus, Wis., and came to Farmington in 1863, purchasing eighty acres of land in section 13, and building a house of logs while clearing the land. The father was born January 21, 1834, and died July 21, 1885, while the mother was born October 19, 1834, and died July 25, 1896. The career of Paul S. Newman continuing for seventeen years, the degree of satisfaction that his work gave being shown by the fact that in all that time he taught in but four different school districts, namely: District No. 7, in Alden township, and Districts No. 3, 4 and 6 in Farmington township. He took charge of the farm of his uncle, Joseph Degler, consisting of 240 acres, in co-partnership with his brother Joseph Newman. This co-partnership extended from April, 1889, to 1898, when each took charge of 120 acres, Paul S. locating on section 12, which he still owns. In 1906 he came to Lincoln township and took charge of the Polk county poor farm. In accepting this position of trust, as well as having responsibility and honor, he resigned the office of town clerk, which he had held in Farmington for five years, and rented his farm to Robert Mix.

His administration of the affairs of the almshouse have been most satisfactory. Since twenty-one years of age he has been a notary public of Polk county, Wisconsin, and for six years he was a justice of the peace in Farmington township. He is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Yoemen, the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He was a charter member of Camp 4918 of the latter order at East Farmington and has been its clerk for several years. Mr. Newman was married October 31, 1898, to Rosa Schmidt, of Farmington, who was born in that town December 30, 1879, daughter of Gust. and Angeline (Montedora) Schmidt, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Peru, South America. Mr. and Mrs. Newman have four bright children: Irving, born September 16, 1900; Oliver, born May 2, 1902; Hazel, born March 5, 1904, and Bessie, born October 4, 1905. At the time of the writing of this sketch, October 31, 1908, Mr. and Mrs. Newman and four children are celebrating the tenth anniversary of their wedding day at the Polk county poor farm.

**L. Q. Olcott,** cashier of the Bank of Amery, Wis., was born in Essex county, New York, June 19, 1840, son of Q. M. and Lucena (Mann) Olcott, natives of Vermont. The father was a New England business man, emigrating west to Milwaukee, Wis., in 1848, and engaging in the lumber business until 1869. In 1875 he moved to Oshkosh, Wis., where he died October 23, 1886, the mother passing away in December, 1898. L. Q. received his education at Lawrence university, Appleton, Wis., and was a railroad agent and printer until 1864, when he joined the Union army, serving during the remainder of the conflict. Upon his return from the war he was married, in May of 1865, to Nettie Smith, of New Lisbon, Wis., born February 22, 1840. This union has been blessed with four children: Frank is a lumberman at Cumberland, Wis.; Fred is a bank cashier at St. Croix Falls, Wis.; Tim is cashier in the bank at Ashton, Ia., and the fourth son was Guy, who died in 1891. From 1866 to 1868 Mr. Olcott was city clerk of Fond du Lac, Wis. He published the "Fond du Lac Journal" from 1875 to 1880, and in 1881 went to Cumberland, Wis., where he was employed with the Cumberland Lumber Company until 1889. Subsequently he located in Eau Claire, Wis., until 1893, being interested in Alaskan mining. In 1893 he came to Amery, Wis., and opened the Bank of Amery, capitalized at $15,000. He was at the incorporation elected cashier, which position he still retains. He was president of Amery village several years.

**Dr. Gentz Perry,** physician and surgeon of Amery, was born in West Hurley, Ulster county, N. Y., September 1, 1869, son of Edward H. and Alice (Elmendorf) Perry. A sketch of his

father, who was one of the pioneers of the St. Croix valley, appears in this history. When the present Gentz Perry, M. D., had reached the tender age of about two years, his mother and infant brother died. His grandparents, Hiram and Catherine Elmendorf, took the little boy to their own home and tenderly cared for him, providing all the comforts of life until the great financial crisis of 1873, when the grandfather, who had been a successful farmer and business man, lost all of his property and in 1876 came West to start life anew in the newer country. From that time on the little boy shared all of the hardships and privations incident to frontier life. Starting as a poor boy on a farm, he educated himself entirely by his own efforts. While herding cattle on the prairies he used his spare time to study botany and insect and bird life. His extensive knowledge of animal life and of comparative anatomy was begun in this way. His elementary education was received in the country schools of Whiteside county, Illinois, and in the high school of Sterling, Ill. After finishing high school he taught school for five years. During the last three years of teaching he devoted his spare time to the study of medicine under the preception of Dr. F. S. Wade, New Richmond, Wis. He then took the full course in the College of Medicine and Surgery, Minnesota State University, receiving his diploma as Doctor of Medicine and Surgery, June 3, 1897. While a student at the university he had charge of the general receiving and dispensing for the large number of charity patients treated at the Free Dispensary, supported by the state of Minnesota, and presided over by the different specialists who composed the faculty of the College of Medicine and Surgery at the university. During the summer months, when the college was not in session, Dr. Perry treated a large number of these charity patients himself and thus gained a wide and varied experience that is seldom acquired by any young physician.

During his senior year in college he served as druggist and assistant house physician at the Asbury Methodist Hospital, Minneapolis, devoting his entire time at the hospital during the summer vacation preceding his last college year. From June, 1897, to June, 1898, having secured the position of interne, or house physician, by a competitive examination at St. Mary's Hospital, Minneapolis, he served that hospital as house physician and surgeon and thus completed a very thorough and broad preparation for his life work. In the summer of 1898 Dr. Perry went to New Richmond, Wis., and relieved Dr. Wade from his extensive practice while the latter took a vacation of three months. While in New Richmond, Dr. Perry also acted as attending physician and surgeon to the St. Croix County Hospital and Insane Asylum. Early in September, 1898, he permanently

located in Amery and began the active practice of medicine and surgery, which he has since continuously and successfully followed. He has a wide reputation and occupies a high place in the regard of the community, especially in the hearts of those beside whose bedsides he has ministered in the hours of affliction and distress. In 1898 he purchased two lots in Amery, one on Harriman avenue and one on Kellar avenue, and in 1900 he built a beautiful residence on Harriman avenue on the banks of North Twin lake, where he now resides. In 1901 he erected a large brick and stone office building on Kellar avenue, which is supplied with all of the latest and best appliances to be had in the treatment of disease and injury. Dr. Perry's office is more completely furnished and equipped than many of the offices found in the larger cities. Dr. and Mrs. Perry are members of the Congregational church, the doctor having been a deacon of the church for over nine years. He was one of the promoters of the movement to place the Protestant Sunday-schools of America of all denominations upon a scientific basis of instruction by establishing regular normal institutes for the training of Sunday-school teachers, such as those at Elk Mound, Wis., and at Amery. He is a member of the Barron-Polk-Washburn-Sawyer-Burnett County Medical Society, being ex-president and one of the present officers. He is also a member of the Wisconsin State Medical Society and of the American Medical Association. He is one of the life members of the auxiliary board of "Success Magazine" editors. Being always ready and willing to promote the industrial and intellectual development of the community, he early became interested in the establishment of a home bank in Amery. He was one of the active organizers of the Farmers' & Merchants' State Bank of Amery and is still a stockholder and one of the officers of that institution. For six years he was clerk of the Amery high school board and at the present time is one of the trustees of the Northland College of Ashland, Wis. Dr. Perry has always been deeply interested in the subjects of psychology and public education. A keen student of human nature, he has devoted much of his time in planning and developing the public schools that they might better develop the growing generations. He early championed the teaching of patriotism in the public schools and was active in assisting the movement which made it a legal necessity for every school in Wisconsin to have and properly display a national flag. He has always been an ardent supporter of manual training in the public schools. In the face of active opposition he established the subjects of industrial training and of vocal music as a part of the regular course of study throughout the grades of the Amery public schools. A man of such strenuous habits nat-

urally makes violent enemies as well as devoted friends, but his courage and energy have proven him to be one of the leading citizens of northern Wisconsin. Fraternally he is a member of the Masons, the Sons of Veterans, the Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Royal Neighbors and the United Foresters.

Dr. Perry was married, September 1, 1898, to Helen Toan, daughter of Benjamin D. and Harriet (Danforth) Toan, of Rochester, Minn. Helen Toan's parents were natives of New York state who early removed west to the then new state of Minnesota. Mrs. Perry (Helen Toan) was born at Rochester, Minn., October 21, 1872. Her father was born March 22, 1829, and her mother December 25, 1839. To Dr. and Mrs. Perry have been born four children: Kathryn Lucile, born May 28, 1899; Edward Benjamin, born November 11, 1900; Richard Toan, born April 17, 1902, and Gentz Franklin, born June 30, 1905. A leader among his fellow men, Dr. Perry is an ideal Christian gentleman, a skilled and tender physician, a loving husband, a wise father, a public-spirited citizen and a loyal friend.

**Edward H. Perry,** who lived in New Richmond, Wis., during the disastrous cyclone, and who now makes his home in Minneapolis, was born in Olive, Ulster county, N. Y., October 19, 1846. At twelve years of age he was left an orphan and at the age of fifteen years, August 12, 1862, he enlisted as a musician in the Union army at Kingston, N. Y., serving in Company B, 156th New York Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Fowler and Colonel Cook. He was with General Banks on the Red river expedition and with Sheridan in the campaign of the Shenandoah valley in 1864 and participated in the following battles: Cedar Creek, Winchester, Fisher Hill, siege of Port Hudson and Baton Rouge, as well as many other engagements, and finally assisting in the capture of Augusta, Ga. In all of these battles he served with bravery and escaped serious injury, receiving only a slight scalp wound. He was discharged at Augusta, Ga., November 23, 1865, and then returned to Olive, N. Y., a veteran of the Civil war at nineteen years of age. For a short time he did farm work and then learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed until coming to Jewell town, now Star Prairie, Wis., in 1875. In that village he located and followed his trade for a greater part of the time until 1891, when he moved to New Richmond and engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, which he successfully followed until 1899. In that year his business and everything he possessed was swept away by the terrible cyclone that destroyed New Richmond. Undaunted by this disaster, he rebuilt and continued until 1906, when he disposed of his business and retired from active participation in

labor, purchasing a beautiful home in Minneapolis, where he now lives. Mr. Perry was married in Ulster county, New York, to Alice Elmendorf, of Olive, in that state. Two sons blessed this union: Gentz, the subject of another sketch found in this volume, and Hiram B., now deceased. Mrs. Perry died in 1871 and Mr. Perry married the second time, in 1874, Augustine Morgan, by whom he has two daughters, Jessie and Louise. Mr. Perry is a staunch Republican, a member of the Congregational church and of the Masons. He is a highly respected citizen, a man who has accomplished much during his span of years. He has made his own way in life and has achieved success entirely by his own strength of character and unaltering perseverance.

**Peter Peterson** was born in Norway, September 24, 1869, son of Peter O. Quattum and Sivi Johanes, both natives of that country. The father followed farming in the old country and came to America in 1881, locating at Richardson, Polk county, Wis., where he bought a farm of sixty acres, broke the land, made general improvements and erected a home and other necessary buildings, carrying on general diversified farming until 1901, when he sold out and went to South Dakota with his son, afterward going to Washington, where he purchased eighty acres, which he developed and where he is now located. Peter received his education in his native land and came to America in 1882, locating at Richardson, Wis., farming and lumbering, working as shipping clerk for the Hall & Burkhardt Lumber Company seven years. He came to Amery, Wis., in 1888, entering the employ of Johnson & Howe Lumber Company as shipping clerk and lumber inspector until that concern was sold out to John Glover, when Mr. Peterson continued in the same capacity with Mr. Glover until 1903, when he embarked in the general merchandise business for himself, buying out Strobeen & Lindquist. Then he sold out to John G. Burman, working for Mr. Burman for one year. After this he was a rural mail carrier for a year and then engaged with John C. Dahl in the general merchandise business, buying out H. M. Webb, putting the two together and carrying on the business for three years. In 1908 he bought out the general store of H. Dohlstull, which he now conducts. Mr. Peterson was married April 22, 1892, to Inga Johnson, of Clayton, Polk county, Wis., daughter of Christian and Maren (Hansen) Johnson, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1881, locating at Hudson, Wis., for four years, then, in 1885, moving to Clayton, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have been blessed with five children: Conrad A., born July 16, 1895; Roal T., born December 28, 1896; Viola, born March 18, 1898; Norval, born November 8, 1901; Irvin, born March 7, 1907. Mr. Peterson has a pleasant home, surrounded by seven acres of good land, at

Amery. He is a progressive business man, and is noted for his fair dealings and business integrity.

**George F. Porter** is a native of Red Wing, Minn., born March 7, 1873, son of J. F. and Louise Porter, the father being a native of America and the mother of Germany. The father started his business career as a leather tanner at St. Paul, Minn. He continued there until 1871 and then went to Red Wing, Minn., entering into partnership with the S. B. Foot Company, tanners. With this company he remained until 1904, when he sold his interest in the concern and retired from active life. He is the inventor of the sorghum evaporators, upon which he holds the patents, the Densmore Brothers of Red Wing, being the manufacturers. The state of Minnesota sent him to New Orleans to exhibit this machine to the sorghum manufacturers there. The machine met with approval, and a market for it was at once created. J. F. Porter is now living in a beautiful residence in Red Wing. He is prominent in politics and organized the school district at Trout Brook, near Red Wing. He was elected clerk of the district and held the position thirty-two years. George F. received his education in the public schools of Red Wing and then took a course in the Minnesota State Agricultural school, from which he was graduated. After leaving school he entered the employ of his father in the leather tannery at Red Wing and held the position of foreman for ten years. In 1904 he came to Amery and bought the old mill site on Keller avenue, which he rebuilt and opened as a fur tannery, which he has since conducted with great success. The business has increased and more than doubled its original capacity and output. Mr. Porter also owns a beautiful cottage and lot on Keller avenue, also ninety-three acres of timber land near Sucker Lake, Polk county. He is independent in politics. He was school clerk of the Trout Brook district in Red Wing two years, and is now a member of the city council of Amery. He is a trustee of the Congregational church at Amery and also a Mason and a member and trustee of the Eastern Star lodge at Amery. Mr. Porter was married October 28, 1896, to Mary McGiverin, of Red Wing, daughter of Henry and Julia (Robson) McGiverin. The father, a hardware merchant, is now deceased. Her mother afterward married L. A. Norton, a traveling salesman. To Mr. and Mrs. Porter have been born five children: Gladys, Dorothy, Roland, Ruth and Dwight, all of whom are at home.

**James R. Schaffner** was born in Ashford, New York, December 29, 1844, son of Philip and Mary A. (Nye) Schaffner, the former a native of France and the latter of New England. They located at Ashford, N. Y., the father being a merchant and farmer until 1859. During the Civil War he served as United States

deputy marshal and in 1857 went to McKean county, Pennsylvania, purchasing seventy acres, where he farmed until 1873, in which year he sold his farm and emigrated westward, locating in Lincoln township, Polk county, where he bought eighty acres of land. This he later sold to his son James R. and homesteaded forty acres, which he cleared and improved, remaining until 1888, when he moved to Amery village and lived with James R. until 1892. Subsequently he bought eighty acres more land in Lincoln township, which he kept until 1893, at which time he sold and bought a house and lot on Heniman avenue, Amery village, where he lived until 1901. He then sold his property and took up his home with James R. until his death, October 24, 1903. The mother passed away May 30, 1894. James R. received his education at Ashford, N. Y., and soon after leaving school joined the Union Army, January 31, 1862, enlisting at Ashford, N. Y., in Company K, One Hundred and Fifth Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry. After the battle of Fredericksburg the One Hundred and Fifth was consolidated with the Ninety-fourth. He was advanced from private to sergeant and then commissioned by Governor John W. Geary. After his discharge he became a first lieutenant in the Pennsylvania National Guard, and by a special act was discharged from the National Guard April 15, 1873. He participated, while in the Ninenty-fourth and One Hundred and Fifth regiments in the following engagements: Slaughter Mountain, Rappahannock Station, Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Ann River, South Ann River, Cold Harbor, Gettysburg, siege of Petersburg and Five Forks. He was wounded at the Battle of Gettysburg, being shot through the foot, necessitating his staying in the hospital six months. In August, 1865, he returned to Ashford, N. Y., and farmed until 1867, then moved to Pennsylvania and bought a farm. Later, in 1873, he came to Lincoln township, Wisconsin, and homesteaded 160 acres, breaking and clearing the land. In 1876 he went back to Pennsylvania and worked on the railroad three years, afterward working on his farm until 1888, when he came to Amery village and built the Schaffner Hotel, conducting the same for several years. In 1899 he sold the hotel, and bought a house and two lots. In 1903, he moved his family to Minneapolis and engaged in the ice business until 1906, when he returned and has continued to live in Amery, conducting a five-acre fruit farm on the shores of North Twin Lake. Mr. Schaffner was married September 14, 1865, to Mahala Ball, of East Ashford, N. Y., daughter of William and Eunice Ball. The marriage was performed at Quanda, N. Y., and resulted in three children: David, who died in infancy; Emma E., born July 29, 1868, and died June 16, 1891, having married I. D.

Foster, of Clear Lake, Wis.; Mary A., born March 7, 1870, married to O. E. Manor. Mrs. Mahala Schaffner, died October 14, 1873, and Mrs. Schaffner was married July 8, 1876, to Jennie L. Watrus, of Lafayette, Penn., daughter of George W. and Clarinda (Carson) Watrus, both of whom died in October, 1897, three weeks apart. This marriage resulted in three children: Gracie E., born October 15, 1877, married to Fred Thompson, of Lincoln, Wis., now of Everett, Wash.; Jennie A., born September 4, 1885, and died October 11, 1887, and Archie E., born August 3, 1889. Mr. Schaffner is an attendant of the Universalist church and a member of the Daniel Chaplin Post No. 162, G. A. R. A Republican in politics, he has been chairman of the township of Lincoln, and a member of the county and school boards.

**H. J. Soper** was born in Linn county, Iowa, in 1876. He received his education in the public schools of his native place and later entered the business and commercial department of the Cornell university, at Mt. Vernon, Ia., where he was graduated in 1894. He then took up his residence at Cedar Rapids, Ia., and engaged as a traveling salesman until 1902, when he came to Polk county and opened a real estate office at Amery. He met with considerable success at this business, and in 1906 he became cashier of the Farmers and Merchants' State bank, of Amery, being one of its organizers. J. G. Burman is the president of the institution, which has a capital stock of $15,000, and is housed in a fine bank building, a model institution in every way. Mr. Soper was married in 1901 to Jewell E. Hunter, daughter of James Hunter, of Linn county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Soper have been blessed with one daughter, Helen. The subject of this sketch has achieved success in life, and being still a young man is predicted by his friends to have a still greater future ahead of him. He has held office in the village, votes the democratic ticket and affiliates with the Masons.

**Carl A. Staffenson** was born in Sweden, November 7, 1868, son of John and Johannah Staffenson, natives of that country, the former having been born November 18, 1824, and the latter in the month of October, 1830. The father was a farmer and tailor in the old country, coming to the United States in 1873. He located at Isanti county, Minnesota, purchasing a farm of eighty acres, which he broke and improved, erecting the necessary buildings, carrying on diversified farming. In 1890 he retired, sold his farm and moved to Amery, Wis., passing away February 25, 1891. His wife is still living, making her home in Oregon. Mr. and Mrs. John Staffenson were the parents of seven children: Andrew J., Swan M., John A., Peter A., Frank A., and Hannah, married to A. B. Wood, and Carl A. the subject of this sketch. Carl A. received his education in the schools of Amery, and later

in life opened a hardware business at Amery, continuing the same four years. He then took up tie inspecting in winter and gardening in summer, which occupation he has since continued. In 1900 he purchased ten acres and built a pleasant home in the village of Amery. This he sold in the spring of 1904, and in the fall of that year purchased two lots, upon which the erected a beautiful home, which he furnished comfortably, living there at the present time. Mr. Staffenson was married December 2, 1900, to Anna Johnson, born February 27, 1879, daughter of Carl J. and Emelia (Johnson) who came to Wisconsin in the early days and located at Apple River. Her father was born July 26, 1843, and died July 3, 1906. Her mother was born November 27, 1846, and is still living, making her home in Oregon. Mrs. Staffenson has three sisters: Freda, born April 17, 1877, wife of Frank Staffenson; Ellen, born July 16, 1883, married to F. E. Wood, and Emelia, born October 5, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Staffenson have three children: Anna C., born October 18, 1901; Helen I., born May 7, 1904, and Emmett E., born May 16, 1906. Mr. Staffenson is a Republican in politics and has served as justice of the peace for four years. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

**William D. Thompson** first saw the light of day in Orland, Me., April 29, 1840, son of Tobias and Susan (Blaisdell) Thompson, also natives of Maine. The father had a most interesting career. A wheelwright and millwright by trade, he was one of the California '49ers, making two trips to the gold fields, one via Cape Horn in a sailing vessel, and the other via the Isthmus of Panama. After the gold rush was over he returned to Maine and died in 1855. His wife passed away in New Hampshire in 1905. William D. received his education in his native state and engaged in lumbering until twenty-one years of age, when he went to Ellsworth, Me., and enlisted in the Union army. He served in Company B, Sixth Maine Volunteer Infantry, from April 29, 1861, to August 15, 1864, under Colonel Knowles and Captain Basford, taking part in all the engagements of the Army of the Potomac. Returning to Ellsworth, Me., he followed lumbering until 1867, when he came to Lincoln township and homesteaded fifty acres of prairie land, which he broke and improved, combining general farming with lumbering. In 1896 he sold his farm and came to the village of Amery, opening a large livery stable, which he conducted for ten years, afterward retiring and making his residence in a pleasant home at the corner of Keller avenue and Birch street. Mr. Thompson is a Republican in politics and a member of the Congregational church. He was deputy sheriff for six years and chairman of Lincoln township for one year.

Mr. Thompson was married in August, 1860, to Sarah Crowley,

of Ellsworth, Me., by whom he had ten children: Seth, Frank (deceased), William, Frederick, Bert, Edward, Mark (deceased), an infant (deceased), Laura and Charles (deceased).

**William W. Winchester,** mayor of Amery, is a native of Cory, Warren county, Penn., born September 8, 1865, son of Russell and Elizabeth Winchester, natives of New York state. In early life the father was a baker, but upon going to Pennsylvania in the late '50s, he purchased 160 acres, which he broke and improved, farming until 1866. After staying in Illinois for a year he next came to Wisconsin, locating for a year in Polk county and then moving to the town of Chetek, Barron county. In the latter place he took up 160 acres, clearing and breaking the land, working upon it until 1878, when he died. His wife is also now deceased.

William W. received his education in the schools of Barron county and then took a business course in a commercial college. He took up railroading and telegraphy in his native town for a year and then learned the jeweler's trade. In 1890 he came to Amery and opened a jewelry store, which he now conducts, carrying a large stock and doing a big business. He at once took an interest in the business growth of the village, and has been a leader in every movement for its prosperity. He is mayor of Amery, elected in 1906; court commissioner of the circuit court of Polk county, appointed in 1902, and president of the Business Men's Association, elected in 1906. He has been a justice of the peace and village treasurer, assessor, and clerk. He is a Republican in politics, a member of the Congregational church and belongs to the Masons and the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Winchester was married February 26, 1892, to Maggie A. Gaffney, of Turtle Lake, Wis., daughter of James and Elizabeth (Pratt) Gaffney, both of whom are still living, the latter having been a native of England. Mr. and Mrs. Winchester have five children: Vera E., Ray C., Susie A., William W. and Mac M.

## LORAIN TOWNSHIP.

Lorain township was at one time heavily covered with hardwood and pine. There are now many good farms. The soil is, much of it, good. It is well watered by South Clam creek and its tributaries, and has a multitude of small lakes. Lorain was organized November 14, 1872. The first town meeting was held April, 1873. The supervisors were Frank J. Williams, George Phelps and John Klinch. William Gallespie built the first hotel and opened it in 1873. The first school was taught by George Lacy. The first settler was C. Lorain Ruggles, from whom the town took its name. The next settlers were N. B. Bull and Charles Anderson. The chairman of Lorain township is Robert

Smith; clerk, George Hill; treasurer, C. E. Skidmore; assessor, C. L. Bushy. There were in the township in 1908 108 horses, assessed at $5,825; 459 neat cattle, assessed at $6,082; 20 sheep and lambs, assessed at $50; 77 swine, assessed at $267; 23,626.16 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $213,890; personal property, assessed at $16,404; total assessment, $23,094. The following acreage was devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 103; corn, 149; oats, 314; barley, 94; potatoes, 23; other root crops, 1½; hay, 548; with 16 bearing apple trees.

## LUCK TOWNSHIP.

Luck includes township 36, range 17. It is a rich agricultural region and contains many valuable farms. In the early days the eastern part of this township was a rich pine wood region. The Upper Trade and Straight rivers run through the town, making it a well watered section. It also has many beautiful lakes, among which are Butternut and North, now known as Straight lake. Luck was organized as a town November 9, 1869. William H. Foster, M. C. Pederson and J. J. Bille were the first supervisors. Among the first settlers were William H. Gallespie, W. H. Foster and D. F. Smith, who came here about 1857. D. F. Smith built the first sawmill, and W. H. Foster was the first postmaster. Laura Jones taught the first school in Luck, which now has three fine school buildings and a number of flourishing churches. The Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie railroad runs through the township. The chairman of Luck township is Hans H. Bille; clerk, Nels Edling; treasurer, Peder Nielsen; assessor, Jens J. J. Bille. There were in the township in 1908, 226 horses, assessed at $13,470; 1,063 neat cattle, assessed at $14,614; 255 sheep and lambs, assessed at $616; 150 swine, assessed at $657; 21,319.49 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $245,921; personal property, assessed at $53,277; total assessment, $299,198. The following acreage was devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 33; corn, 243; oats, 603; barley, 138; rye, 12; potatoes, 29; hay, 672; growing timber, 2,624; other root crops, 6. There are two settlements, Luck and West Denmark.

**Nels Edling,** proprietor of Prospect farm, in Luck township, which is one of the model farms of the county, was born in Sweden, September 3, 1866, son of N. E. and Christina (Olson) Edling, natives of that country. Nels received his early education in the common schools of his native country and came to the United States in 1884, locating first in St. Paul and Minneapolis, where for thirteen years he was employed as a street car conductor. In 1897 he came to Luck township and engaged in general farming, which he still continues. The land was wild when he purchased it, and at that time had only a log cabin on it.

It now has a large and well furnished home, with a commodious barn and other buildings. For many years Mr. Edling engaged in dairy farming, making a specialty of high grade stock. In 1906 he engaged in the farm implement business, handling agricultural machinery of all kinds. He also does an undertaking business. He has a partner named Madsen and the business is conducted under the firm name of Edling and Madsen. Mr. Edling is a Republican in politics and has served as town clerk four years and as school clerk ten years. He has also been justice of the peace. At the present time he is a director of the Luck Mutual Fire Insurance Company. In social affiliation he is a Modern Woodman. Mr. Edling was married in 1893 to Laura Hansen, by whom he has three children—Lawrence, Esther and Roy.

**Peder Nielsen,** a farmer of Luck township, was born in Denmark, March 5, 1845, son of Nels Hansen, who lived and died in the old country. Peder came to the United States in 1869 and remained for a short time in Waupaca county, Wisconsin, afterward coming to Polk county, where he bought a farm of 160 acres in Luck township, upon which he has continued to reside. At the time he came here he settled in the woods, and the fifty acres of plowed land which he now owns has all been cleared by himself. He makes a specialty of dairying, and has a good sized barn, a comfortable home and an excellent silo. In all his farming he uses the latest approved methods and in every line of endeavor that he has undertaken, his efforts have met with prosperity. Always looking for the betterment of his community, he took an interest in the organization of the Luck Coöperative creamery, of which he is treasurer and one of the stockholders. He was also one of the supporters of the telephone system. A Republican in politics, he has been on the town board of supervisors and at present is assessor and treasurer of his township. Mr. Nielson was married to Hanna Skow, of Denmark, by whom he has eight children, all of whom are now living. They are: Skow, Peter, Nels, Christ, Alma, Anna, Clara and Emma. Mr. Nielson is a self-made man and has good reason to be proud of the success that he has achieved.

**J. P. Peterson,** owner and proprietor of a general store in Luck township, was born in the country of Denmark, March 21, 1859, son of Nels Peterson, who came to America in 1867 and located in Neenah, Wis., engaging as a cabinet maker and furniture dealer. In 1869 he came to Polk county and farmed until his death, in 1890. Mr. Peterson was educated in the schools of Neenah, Wis., also taking courses at a state normal school.

For fourteen years he taught school and for six years was superintendent of schools in Polk county. In 1889 he established

a general store in Luck township, which has since been very successful. For three years he was postmaster of West Denmark postoffice. He has been treasurer of his school district for sixteen years, and a notary public for a similar period. He was secretary of Luck Creamery Company three years, and was the first to operate a creamery in Polk county. He has occupied practically all the town offices, including town chairman, town clerk and justice of the peace, being also a prominent member of the county board at one time. As a member of the Wisconsin legislature he labored for the best interests of his fellow citizens and filled the position with much credit. Since the time he was first made a voter he has voted the Republican ticket. Mr. Peterson was married in 1887 to Matilda M. Hovland, by whom he has had four children: Florence A. (deceased at sixteen years), Wilmar C., Howard A. and Roy W. Mrs. Peterson was born on a farm near Janesville, Wis., and with her father moved to Neenah, Wis., where she met Mr. Peterson. She later moved with her father to Polk county, where she was married. Mr. Peterson is owner of Lakeside Farm, located on the north shore of Little Butternut lake, in the town of Luck.

## LUCK VILLAGE.

Before the war of the rebellion W. H. Foster established a store to trade with the Indians on the spot where Luck now stands. About thirty-two years ago a postoffice was established and called Luck. The place was then called Butternut Lake, and was known as a stopping place for people traveling to and from the pine woods. The town is beautifully located on the west bank of Big Butternut lake, covering an area of about two square miles and plentifully stocked with game fish. The town has grown rapidly since the branch of the "Soo" railroad was built through here, and now has a population of about 200 people. It is situated in the midst of a rich agricultural region and draws trade from a wide circle of territory. This village, with a population of 372, has a state bank, one newspaper, the "Enterprise"; two Swedish Lutheran churches, two meat markets, one dealer in furniture and notions, and another exclusively devoted to the sale of furniture; two saloons, five general stores, one painter, two livery barns, one harness maker, four blacksmith shops, one shoemaker, one drug and jewelry store, one photograph gallery, a dealer in flour, feed, grain, etc., a contractor and builder, a fruit and confectionery store, and an excelsior and bolting mill, the latter enterprise being in charge of James E. Schow.

**L. J. Askov,** of the firm of Askov Brothers, proprietors of the Arch store, at Luck, was born in Denmark, May 16, 1870, son of H. P. J. Askov, who came to the United States in 1881 and settled

on a farm in Polk county, one mile west of Luck, now residing in retirement in Luck village. Mr. Askov received his education in Elkhorn, Ia., and Blair, Neb. He then came to Polk county and engaged in business at Cushing, operating the general store and serving as postmaster. After two years he turned this department over to his brother, C. J., and in 1901 came to Luck and opened the Arch store. This store has two departments and deals in furniture, funeral supplies, pianos and organs, millinery, ladies' furnishings, clothing and notions. Mrs. Askov, a competent milliner, has charge of this department. The store is large and up-to-date in every particular. Mr. Askov believes in up-to-date methods of business and advertising, and his progressiveness has contributed to the general prosperity of the village. He is one of the charter members of the Lutheran church, in which he has been one of the most active workers. Ever since this church was organized, in 1901, he has held office, either as chairman or secretary. He has been superintendent of the Sunday school for three successive years. As the direct result of the work by this congregation they now have a resident minister and modern church building valued at $5,000. Mr. Askov is a Republican in politics and has served on the village board. He was married in 1900 to Sophia Brenholt, by whom he has three children: Paul, Milo and Alpha. In Mr. Askov's family there were seven brothers and sisters, as follows: L. J., C. J., Alma, Charles, William, Annie and Nora. Mr. Askov occupies a high place among the business men of the county, and his neat two-story building in Luck village, with its large front windows, is a model of what country stores can be made with the proper attention. The store owned by the brothers at Cushing is also a progressive establishment. During his career, Mr. Askov has had many interesting experiences. He still tells with a great deal of relish of the time when he drove a herd of cattle to Stillwater and then had to drive them back again. It seems that during the year 1885 times were hard, and it was difficult even to give cows away. So a number of farmers decided to try to dispose of some of their cattle in Stillwater. Young L. J. was considered a better salesman than his father, so he took charge of the family cattle, and with some other farmers, started for Stillwater. All day long he went from butcher to butcher, but without avail, and at nightfall, foot-sore and weary, he had to retrace his steps, driving the herd back home. For three years he had many interesting experiences in working at what was then the Oliver Wendell Holmes sanitarium, at Hudson. After leaving school in Iowa he purchased a double team, and started out canvassing for photography, on his way to Polk county. On this trip he came near being arrested on account of his alleged

resemblance to a murderer for whom a reward of $200 had been offered.

**N. J. Christensen** is a native of Denmark, born November 15, 1861. He came to the United States in 1876 and located in Luck, Wis., being one of the first settlers in the territory now occupied by the village. When he came here, the woods were very heavy, and he worked in the woods winters for a number of years, afterward, in 1888, going into the mercantile business with William H. Foster. This partnership continued for seven years, when Mr. Christensen bought out his partner's interest and has since continued to conduct the store. He handles a large line of general merchandise and is regarded as the leading merchant of Luck. He is genial and accommodating, a careful buyer and an honest seller, an ideal village business man in every way. He is a Republican in politics and has served as village treasurer six terms, also being school treasurer for a similar period. He is one of the kind of men who are known as hustlers and the success which he has won has been due to his integrity and honor. The subject of this sketch was married in 1895 to Rosie Fretsven, whose father, a shoemaker and farmer, came here in the early days, being one of the first settlers. This union has resulted in five bright children: Chester, Alma, Alfred, Mabel and Norman J., Jr. Mr. Christensen is interested in all that pertains to the growth of the county and is always ready to assist every good movement in every way that he can.

**Page N. Butts** was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, June 22, 1842, son of E. Page and Mary (Kelly) Butts, who came to Wisconsin in 1840. Page received his education in Janesville, Rock county, Wis., and while still a youth enlisted in Company E, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, in 1861, serving until October, 1862, when he was discharged on account of a serious wound. He was confined by his wound to the hospital for some time, after which he engaged in the saddle and harness making business for ten years. His next two years were spent in California, and then he returned to Iowa, in which state he had lived before going west. He purchased some horses and came to Polk county, Wisconsin, engaging in hauling and contracting until 1885. He was then elected sheriff, having at that time served for the six years previous as a member of the county board. He served as sheriff two years. This was, however, not the whole extent of his service, as he was deputy sheriff for ten years. In 1887, at the expiration of his term as sheriff he came to Luck and has since made this village his home, although he is away on the road more or less. Upon first coming to this county he located on 160 acres near Clam Falls, where he lived until his election. During his term of office he made his official residence in Osceola, at that

time the county seat. August 3, 1904, he received his appointment as postmaster of the fourth class office at Luck, which position he has since continued to hold, giving great satisfaction to his patrons. For twelve years previous to his appointment he ran a livery stable and hotel in Luck with considerable success. He has assisted in the upbuilding of Luck, and owns an interest in the Butts & Schow addition to the village. Mr. Butts is president of the St. Croix Valley District League. A Republican in politics he has held many public offices and has been a delegate to state and county conventions repeatedly. He has been treasurer of his township and for six years was chairman of the township of Lorain, Wisconsin. In fraternal affiliations he is a member of the Odd Fellows, whom he joined at Osceola. The subject of this sketch was married in 1863, in Iowa, to Emma G. Barclay, by whom he had eight children: Edmond, D. P., Nellie, Walter, Clara, L. D., Estella and Barclay. Mr. Butts was married for his second wife to Elizabeth Smith, of Osceola, by whom he has three children: Lillian, married to James Schow; Belva L. and O. K. All are doing well in their respective lines.

**N. P. Jacobsen,** one of the men whose push and energy was instrumental in securing the incorporation of Luck village, was born in Denmark, November 6, 1860. He received his early education in the schools of his native land and came to America in 1879, and worked for three years on the Mississippi river and on the railroad, afterward locating in Minnesota. He embarked in the dairy business and delivered milk in Minneapolis, owning a farm of 160 acres. In 1902 he came to Luck, that being the year that the railroad came through. He opened a general store, which has continued to prosper. The place has a good reputation and enjoys a good trade, Mr. Jacobsen being a capable manager. Our subject has always labored for the advancement of Luck and has assisted in many public movements. He was a member of the first board of trustees after the village was incorporated. Mr. Jacobsen is an independent voter. He affiliates with the Danish Brotherhood, the Modern Woodmen and the Odd Fellows. The subject of this sketch was married to Catherine Martins, by whom he had two children, Milo and Ella. After the death of his first wife he married Sina Larson, by whom he has four children: Albert, Harold, Reynold and Nina.

**J. P. Jensen,** a prosperous merchant of Luck, is a native of Denmark, born February 21, 1867. His parents came to the United States in 1882. The father, Jorgen Jensen, has retired, but still makes his home on the farm in Luck township, living with his son, C. B. Jensen, who now owns the place. Young Jensen received but meagre education, having acquired his training in educational matters as the result of his own hard work and

observation. In his youth he did various labor, working in the woods and doing something at carpentering also. For nearly nine years he clerked for J. P. Pederson, of West Denmark, and for quite a period he occupied a similar position with N. P. Jacobsen in Luck village. In the spring of 1908 he started in the general merchandise and grocery business for himself in Luck village. Although the store has been opened but comparatively a short time, he has built up a good trade and enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens. His trade is growing and his establishment promises to be an important one. Mr. Jensen is a Democrat in politics, and is serving as a member of the village board. His fraternal relations consist of membership in the I. O. O. F. at Hudson. He has earned everything that he owns by his hard labor and well deserves the success with which he has met.

**Anton Laursen,** dealer in hardware, farm implements and building material at Luck, is a native of Wisconsin, born in Winnebago county near Neenah, November 23, 1867, son of Lars and Elizabeth (Slagel) Pederson, who came to the United States in 1867, remained in Winnebago county one year and then came to St. Croix Falls, spending one winter, subsequently locating in West Denmark, Luck township, homesteading a farm and remaining for the balance of the father's life. He passed away in 1901 and the mother now makes her home with her daughter. Anton Laursen was educated in Polk county and then worked twelve winters in the woods. He spent three summers in the Dakotas and engaged in the sawmill business five years. For a period of six years he worked on the old farm in Luck township, after which in 1903 he sold out and engaged in the implement business in partnership with J. A. Smith, whom he bought out two years ago. Three years ago our subject and J. A. Smith bought out the Nelson Bros. and one year later bought out both implement and hardware store, the only store in the old part of the village that deals in both hardware and implements. Mr. Laursen was married, December 2, 1897, to Bertha Peterson. He is a Republican in politics, and has been assessor of the village since 1905. He is an able business man and has been successful in all his undertakings. He commands a large trade and his goods bear an excellent reputation.

**P. H. Lomo,** a merchant of Luck, Wis., was born in Norway, November 5, 1861, son of Henry Lomo, who died in Norway in 1907. Mr. Lomo received his education in the schools of his native land and came to the United States in 1882, settling in Dunn county, Wisconsin, and working in the woods. He later worked two years in the mines in Michigan and then returned to his native land for one year. Upon again coming to this country

he went to Minneapolis and engaged as coachman for E. S. Jones and son, in whose employ he remained for twelve years. Subsequently he worked two and a half years in Spokane, Wash., then returned to Minneapolis and re-entered the employ of E. S. Jones, remaining until 1901. In that year he came to Luck and engaged in the mercantile business with Mr. Patterson, a sketch of whom appears in this history. Since that time Mr. Lomo has been engaged in the general merchandise business, having a good trade and meeting with considerable success. He is a Republican in politics and at present serves on the village board. He owns property in the village of Luck and is a well-to-do man financially. Mr. Lomo was married, October 10, 1891, to Matilda Rolstad, by whom he has four bright children: Ella, William, Henry and Russell.

**O. W. Lund,** one of the talented editors of Polk county, is a native of Denmark, born July 24, 1862, son of Hans and Henrietta Lund. He came to the United States in 1882 and settled in Cedar Falls, Ia., working at the printing trade and in a grocery store for seven years. He then came to Minneapolis and opened an establishment of his own, publishing a Danish paper, which proved very successful. In connection with the publishing of this paper he also ran a job office. In 1904 he disposed of his paper and his printing office and came to Luck, Polk county, Wis., establishing the "Luck Enterprise," an independent paper with a circulation of 700 copies. This paper is bright and newsy and is a great favorite throughout the district which its circulation covers. Mr. Lund also runs a job printing office, which does quite a large business. He is independent in politics and was president of the town board for two years. He is a member of the Loyal League. The subject of this sketch was married in September, 1884, to Margaret Beck, of Denmark. This union has been blessed with four children: William, Henrietta, Thora and Harold. William is foreman in a printing establishment in Minneapolis. Mr. Lund has a beautiful home, well furnished. He has achieved success, is honored and respected, has a fine family and, in fact, has attained all of those things which go to make up success, happiness and contentment.

**James Mortensen,** liveryman at Luck, was born in Minneapolis, Minn., December 17, 1879, son of Carl and Maren (Nelsen) Martensen, of Denmark. The father came to Minneapolis in 1878, followed clerking in several stores and then helped to build the new court house. Subsequently he came to Laketown township and has sixty acres of land, upon which he carries on dairy farming. James was educated in Minneapolis and Polk county and at the early age of fourteen started in life for himself, beginning work in the woods. For several years he farmed

in the summer time and worked in the woods in the winter time. He then spent three years butter making and subsequently went to Williston, N. D., and proved up a claim of 160 acres of good land, which he still owns. Returning to Luck, he opened the livery business, which he still conducts, now owning from ten to fifteen head of good horses and conducting the best livery in the place. Mr. Mortensen was married, October 20, 1907, to Gertie Hansen, daughter of Fritz and Margaret (Skow) Hansen, natives of Denmark, who came to America in 1880. The father is a farmer in Luck township, owning a fine farm and carrying on dairying. Mr. and Mrs. Mortensen have one child, Clarit, born August 24, 1908. In politics James is a Democrat. Mr. Mortensen's parents had five children, as follows: Carolina, Marie (deceased), James, Dora (deceased) and Dagmar. Mrs. Mortensen's parents had three children: Carrie (deceased), Gertie and Johanna.

**Fred Patterson** first saw the light of day in Madelia, Minn., January 14, 1873, son of Jerome and Margaret (Bjerle) Patterson, natives of Norway, who came first to Illinois and later to Minnesota, the father being a jeweler. The father still later located in Milltown, Polk county, engaging in the mercantile business, in which his son later succeeded him. Jerome Patterson's first wife and three children were massacred by the Indians in Minnesota in the early days. Fred received his education in the public schools and clerked until twenty-one years of age, part of the time in his father's store. Later he took charge of the store. In 1901 he came to Luck village and opened his present store, which is the largest in Luck. The building was the first one to be erected in the new part of the village. The stock carried is now valued at from $15,000 to $20,000, and from this wide variety the people from the country districts around, as well as from the village, buy in large quantities. P. H. Lomo is associated in this business with Mr. Patterson. Our subject is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Masons. He was married to Josephine Rolstad, by whom he has three children: Robert, Elsie and Harold.

**J. S. Pedersen,** of the firm of Pedersen Bros., of Luck, was born in Luck township, Wisconsin, September 19, 1875, son of M. C. and Pauline (Sorenson) Pedersen. His father was one of the original colony that settled in this part of the country forty years ago, and still lives on the old homestead which he took up at that time. He was county treasurer four years (1885 to 1889), chairman of the township for twenty-five years and, in fact, has held practically every township office, being a public-spirited man in every respect. J. S. Pedersen was educated in the district schools and then he engaged in farming, threshing, lumber-

ing, sawmilling and in the feed business. In 1900 he, together with his senior brother, P. M. C. Pedersen, made the present improvements in what is now a part of Luck village. The firm, which consists of J. S. Pedersen and P. M. C. Pedersen, with C. C. Pedersen as bookkeeper, runs a saw mill, feed mill, planing mill and electric light station, also dealing quite extensively in grain. Our subject was married in 1900 to Christine Bille, by whom he has one daughter, Clara. He is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Danish Brotherhood. The firm of Pedersen Bros. employs as high as twenty men the year round and has been one of the important factors in the upbuilding of the village. He is still a young man, and his friends predict that he has still greater successes in store for him.

**Andrew Pedersen** has been clerk of the village of Luck since its first organization. He has been town clerk for fifteen years and school clerk for twenty-four years. He belongs to the church at West Denmark and votes the Republican ticket. Mr. Pedersen was born in Denmark, September 29, 1859, son of Soren and Anna M. Pedersen, who came to the United States in 1862 and located at Neenah, Wis. The father was a blacksmith by trade, which work he followed until 1895. He is still living at the age of seventy-six years, making his home with his son. Upon bringing his family here in 1871 he took up farming in connection with his trade. Andrew Pedersen was educated in the schools at Neenah, Wis., and worked on a farm, also laboring for a short period in the blacksmith shop. He now owns 120 acres of land, all but six of which is in the village of Luck. Sixty acres are under the plow, Andrew having broken the land and made many improvements. He carries on general farming and makes a specialty of dairying. Mr. Pedersen was married in 1888 to Mary Hansen, by whom he has had twelve children. Five died in infancy. The seven living are: Annie, Walter, Einer, Thorwald, Dagney, Agnata and Asta.

**John S. Flink,** harness maker at Luck, is a native of Calumet county, Michigan, born November 4, 1874, son of Erick and Mary Flink. The father came to the United States in 1868 and remained in Michigan as a miner until 1875. He then came to Polk county and settled at Dresser Junction, engaging in farming. At his death, June 24, 1907, he owned 200 acres, which he left to his children and which they now own. John S. received his education in Polk county and at St. Paul, afterward taking up harness making and following same for a space of about five years. After a short period in St. Paul he came to Lykens, this county, remaining eight months. In 1903 he located in Luck, erected a building, and September 31 of that year established a general harness making business, both making and

repairing harness. Mr. Flink is a Republican in politics and thoroughly believes in the tenets of that party. The subject of this sketch was married in 1904 to Jennie Johnson and has one child, Clarence. Nels P. Johnson and wife, parents of Mrs. Flink, came to the township of Milltown, Wis., about forty years ago, and there the father made a good home and farm. Of his seven children, four died in infancy, and one, Charles, died January 14, 1900. Mrs. Johnson died July 7, 1900. For twenty years Mr. Johnson was a logger. He is now in ill health at the age of seventy-five years, and since 1904 has lived in Luck, where he receives loving care in the homes of his two daughters, Mrs. John Flink and Mrs. N. P. Matson. His wife and children are buried in the Apple River Cemetery. Mrs. Mary Flink, mother of John S. Flink, died October 16, 1908, after a long illness, during which she suffered from stomach trouble. She was a hard working woman and a staunch supporter of the church. Her support meant much to the church in the early days when money was scarcer than at present and times were hard, and the majority of people were working to secure for themselves the necessities of life and giving little attention to religious matters. Mrs. Flink senior lived to see her work rewarded, and at her death was accorded the encomiums of hundreds of friends.

**C. P. Horn, M. D.**, physician and surgeon of Luck, Wis., was born in Denmark, February 16, 1863, son of Franc and Margaret Horn, who came to the United States in 1884 and took up farming in the state of Iowa, now living in retirement there. Dr. Horn was educated in Denmark and in Iowa, and then took up the study of medicine, graduating from the Chicago Homœopathic School, of Chicago, Ill., in 1891. He took up the practice of medicine in Door county, Wisconsin, remaining there three years. After a year and a half in Waupaca, Wis., Dr. Horn came to Polk county in 1896 and settled in Luck, where he has since remained, building up a large practice and winning the confidence and affection of the people at whose bedsides he has ministered during the hours of affliction and illness. He is a member of the State Medical Society and also of the American Medical Society. He is independent in politics; is at present coroner of Polk county, and belongs to the Modern Woodmen and the Danish Brotherhood. He owns village property and is vice-president of the Bank of Luck, in which he is one of the stockholders. Dr. Horn was married, August 20, 1891, to Laura Larson, daughter of S. C. Larson, of Denmark. This union has been blessed with five children: Theodor, Ellen, C. P., Jr., Richard, and one who died in infancy.

**H. J. Skow**, of the firm of Skow & Skow, general hardware merchants, of Luck, Wis., was born in Denmark, May 4, 1877,

son of J. P. Skow, who came to the United States in 1880, settled in Luck, Wis., and took up farming, owning 320 acres. He died June 21, 1894, and his wife passed away in July, 1895. Our subject was educated in the common schools of the county and then until seventeen years of age worked on the farm with his father. Upon the death of his mother he went to North Dakota and became an engineer, working in sawmills and on threshers, becoming thoroughly familiar with all farm implements. In the fall of 1904, in company with his brother, he opened a store at Luck, Wis., dealing in general hardware and farm implements. This business has prospered and the brothers have a large trade, handling an excellent and varied line of goods. Mr. Skow votes the Republican ticket, but has never sought public office, choosing rather to devote his time and attention to his business. In 1903 Mr. Skow was married to Sine Peterson, whose family settled in Polk county in the early days. This union has resulted in one son, Oscar. Although he has been away a great deal, Mr. Skow has made his headquarters and home in Luck ever since he was an infant, and he is interested in all that promotes the progress of the village and the growth of the township.

## McKINLEY TOWNSHIP.

The chairman of McKinley township is Elroy Baer; clerk, Charles Renstrom; treasurer, Oscar Risberg; assessor, George D. Grover. There were in the township in 1908: 88 horses, assessed at $4,443; 298 neat cattle, assessed at $3,770; 142 sheep and lambs, assessed at $364; 18 swine, assessed at $69; 23,397 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $208,731; personal property, assessed at $22,551; total assessment, $231,282. The following acreage was devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 9; corn, 6; oats, 143; rye, 3; potatoes, 11; hay, 242. There is one village, Lorain.

## MILLTOWN TOWNSHIP.

Milltown includes township 35, range 17. It is a good agricultural and stock growing town, being well watered by the small streams which flow in the Balsam, Half Moon and other lakes. Twenty years ago the timber was mostly hardwood in the western section and some pine in the eastern part of the township. Milltown was formerly a part of St. Croix, but was organized as a separate township, December 20, 1869, and the first town meeting held January 8, 1870. The first supervisors were John Lynch, M. Fitzgerald, Sr., and John Hurley. The first school, which was started in 1865, was taught by Maggie Crawford, and in 1866 the first school house was built. The town has now five substantial school buildings, averaging a good attendance. The

chairman of Milltown township is Niels H. Nielsen; clerk, A. J. Miller; treasurer, Jens Laursen; assessor, N. J. Larson. There were in the township in 1908: 365 horses, assessed at $22,095; 2,087 neat cattle, assessed at $34,810; 166 sheep and lambs, assessed at $410; 228 swine, assessed at $1,175; 21,493 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $402,925; personal property, assessed at $102,594; total assessment, $505,519. The following acreage was devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 133; corn, 526; oats, 188; barley, 563; potatoes, 27; hay, 1,964; timber, 6,168. There are three villages, Milltown, Patterson and Glenton.

**George A. Nelson** is one of the progressive farmers of Polk county and has had an extended experience, covering many states and reaching even into the gold fields of Alaska. He is now the owner and proprietor of the Pioneer Home Farm, about three-quarters of a mile from the village of Milltown, upon which he raises pure bred stock and seed and carries on general farming, a specialty being made of dairying. His seed has a market in seven different states and his cream is sold to the Milltown Coöperative creamery, of which he is the president. He is also a stockholder in the Milltown State Bank and in the Polk County Coöperative store. A Republican in politics, he has served as chairman of the township for three years, during which service he gave much satisfaction. He is also a school officer and a director of the Milltown Mutual Exchange. Mr. Nelson was born in Milltown, Wis., November 15, 1875, son of Jens and Christina (Jensen) Nelson, natives of Nestved-on-Sjelland, Denmark. The father came to the United States in 1865 and remained in New York state two years. He then went to Chicago and remained until 1870, when he brought his family to Milltown township, where he had previously purchased land. In those early days the family lived in a log hut and began to prepare for farming. At one time the father owned as high as 320 acres, but it has been divided and he now owns 40 acres, his present home being part of the original farm. Jens Nelson devoted the greater part of his life to farming, but also spent fourteen winters in the woods. Mr. Nelson was educated in the public schools, brought up on a farm and there remained until 1892, when he went to Elkhorn, Ia., and attended college four months. He then worked in sawmills, on the drives, in the pineries, in the Dakota harvest fields, in the Iowa corn fields and on the Chicago drainage canal, also doing various other labor. In the spring of 1898 he went to Alaska, making Dawson City his headquarters. In speaking of this experience Mr. Nelson says: "Here I encountered many hardships by labor, cold and starvation, and after working two and a half years, mostly in the gold mines, I

again set sail for Polk county, bringing with me good wages and specimens of dust, also nugget pins, a souvenir ring, a handsomely engraved gold watch and a nugget chain, all from my own gold." Upon returning he took up farming on the old homestead, now owning 160 acres, seventy-five acres of which has been developed by Mr. Nelson and his father. Eighty-five acres consists of good standing timber. Mr. Nelson was married in 1901 to Christina Larson, daughter of Hans and Marie (Peterson) Larson, old settlers who came here in the seventies. To this union have been born three children: Laura H., Lenore K. and Elmer H.

## MILLTOWN VILLAGE.

Milltown village has a State Bank of Milltown, with a capital of $12,000. The village is surrounded by rich farming country, chiefly contributory to that place. There are lumber mills, feed mills, one plumber, one hotel and one general store, one dealer in wall paper and paints, a creamery, one photograph gallery, a branch of the Polk County Coöperative Company, one hardware store, one contractor and builder, one confectionery, one hotel and two dealers in agricultural implements.

**Mads Bank** is the proprietor of the Milltown feed and planing mill, which deals in lumber, grain and feed. He was born in Denmark, October 7, 1867, son of Nels Jensen Smed, who lived and died in the old country. Mads Bank came to the United States in 1891 and worked one winter in the furniture and car shops in Duluth, Minn. He then came to Milltown in 1892 and followed his trade as carpenter until 1895. Subsequently he engaged in running a saw mill and still later added a feed mill. In 1899 the establishment was burned out and the loss was not covered by insurance, but with the aid of the merchants and farmers Mr. Bank at once rebuilt. He now runs the feed mill, lumber yard, water works, light plant, planing mill, and operates a 25-horsepower gasoline engine and 20-horsepower steam engine. Aside from this he owns several pieces of rentable property, including five acres of ground inside the city limits. He runs a large business and has a constantly increasing trade. He is a self-made man, public spirited in every way. In political faith he is a Republican. Mr. Bank was first married in 1891 to Anna Christensen, who died in 1894 leaving one child, Anna. Mr. Bank was next married in 1900 to Petrea Lauritsen, by whom he has four children: Ejnar T., Auge (deceased), Evald and Gerda.

**J. H. Hermansen,** merchant of Milltown, Wis., although comparatively a recent comer in the county, has already established a reputation and is one of the rising business men of this section of the country. His business is rapidly growing and he is regarded as one of the successful men of the village. Mr. Herman-

sen was born in Denmark, December 20, 1863, son of Hans Hermansen, who came to the United States in 1880 and became a farmer of Milltown township, Polk county, where he died. Our subject was educated in Denmark, but only went to school two weeks in Polk county, the rest of his English education having been picked up by himself. For ten years he farmed, then spent some time in Dakota, being a meat dealer and farmer. He worked on the railroad for one year when the line was built through Milltown and then located here, engaging in the general mercantile business, in which he has since continued. He handles the goods of the Minnesota Mercantile Company, of Stillwater, Minn. He started with the meat business and then abandoned it, but will soon again resume that department of the business. He is a Democrat in politics, but has never cared to hold public office. Our subject was married in 1895 to Olthine Jensen, whose parents came from Denmark and engaged in farming and stock buying in Polk county. To this union have been born five children: Harold, Margaret, Ralph, Albers and Ewald, all of whom are at home.

**N. J. Larsen** is one of the prominent men of Milltown township. He has been school clerk ten years, township supervisor four years and assessor three years. He has been president of the local creamery and is now secretary of the Milltown Coöperative creamery. He holds stock in the local bank and is also a stockholder in the Polk County Coöperative Company. He votes an independent ticket and belongs to the I. O. O. F. Mr. Larsen now lives in a pleasant and well-furnished home and is reaping the reward of success after long years of toil and hard work. Mr. Larsen was born in Denmark, March 7, 1870, son of Nels and Margaret (Hemingsen) Larsen, who lived and died in the old country. Our subject came to the United States in 1889 and settled in Polk county, taking up farm work. In 1894 he began farming for himself, taking 175 acres of land in Milltown township. Fifty acres of this land is now under the plow, a larger part having been cleared by Mr. Larsen. He now does general farming, making a specialty of dairying and cattle raising. In 1894 Mr. Larsen was married to Margaret Schnell, daughter of Fred Schnell, who came from Minnesota. To them have been born five children: George, Fred, Peter, Pearl and Mary, all of whom are at home.

**J. Laursen,** postmaster of the village of Milltown, Wis., is a native of Polk county, born in Luck, August 21, 1872, son of Laurs Pederson, a native of Denmark. His mother was born in Germany. The parents came to Winnebago county, Wisconsin, stayed one year, then removed to St. Croix Falls, Polk county,

taking up a homestead and working in a saw mill. The father died in 1901 and the mother is still living, making her home with a daughter in Luck, Wis. J. Laursen received his education in the common schools of Luck, Wis., and then took one term at the Caton Business College in Minneapolis. He worked for three years for his brother as bookkeeper in his store and foreman of his saw mill, after which he came to Milltown, Wis., bought eighty acres of land, farmed until 1898 and then, with J. L. Sund, opened what is known as the Milltown department store, now the biggest store in the town. After something over two years this partnership was dissolved and Mr. Laursen established his present store. He at first handled pumps and bought ties and cordwood for four years. In 1901 he became postmaster, having previously been assistant while in partnership with Mr. Sund. A Republican in politics, he is now secretary of the Fourth Class Postmasters' League. He is a notary public and town treasurer and has been town clerk and justice of the peace. Aside from his store, which carries a large stock and has a good trade, he owns a pleasant home in the village. He is vice-president of the State Bank of Milltown and president of the newly organized telephone company, which already has about seventy subscribers. Mr. Laursen was married, November 16, 1899, to Hulda Hermansen, by whom he has had five children: Esther M., Richard A., Thorwald H., Carl H. and Alfred T. All are living at home. Mr. Laursen has been a successful man and is a representative citizen in every respect.

**J. M. Michaelson,** manager of the Polk County Coöperative Company's general mercantile and implement store at Milltown, is a native of Laketown, Polk county, born March 5, 1877, son of Iver and Maren Michaelson, who came to the United States in the seventies and engaged in farming in Milltown township, where they are still located. Our subject was educated in the common schools of Polk county and attended the St. Croix Falls schools for a short time. He worked at farming for a period and then in 1901 started in the hardware and implement business for himself, selling out and becoming manager in 1906. The store carries a full line of general merchandise, hardware, implements, gasoline engines and the like, and under the able management of Mr. Michaelson is doing a fine business. He is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Odd Fellows. In the year 1900 he was married to Ella Lindvig, daughter of J. M. Lindvig, a retired farmer of Milltown. By this union there are two children: Helena and William. Mr. Michaelson is a capable business man, a good citizen and a true friend. In his store he is affable and accommodating and is a thorough master of the general mer-

chandise business. He has never sought public office, preferring rather to devote all his time to his business and his family. He has made all that he owns by his own hard work and is largely a self-educated man, having had but few school advantages.

**M. P. M. Michaelson,** blacksmith of Milltown, Wis., is a native of Laketown, Polk county, Wis., born May 6, 1879, son of Iner and Maren Michaelson, mention of whom is found in this history in connection with that of J. M. Michaelson, brother of our subject. M. P. M. Michaelson was educated in the district schools of the county and then took up blacksmithing, having been engaged in that occupation for thirteen years. In 1902 he came to Milltown and opened a modern blacksmith shop, which he has since continued. His shop is equipped with all the latest conveniences and appliances, including a trip hammer, band saw, Barket's shoeing rack, drilling machines, etc., all operated by a 6-horsepower gasoline engine. He also has a W. W. Sheering disk sharpener. He employs four men in the winter time and has a very large business, the excellence of his work being known for many miles around. Mr. Michaelson owns a nice piece of property in the village and has built a fine brick house, which is well furnished and well kept, testifying to Mrs. Michaelson's excellence as a housekeeper. Mr. Michaelson was married in 1901 to Helena Lindvig, by whom he has two children, Ethel E. and Violet A. Mr. Michaelson is a Republican in politics and has been constable for four years. He belongs to the Yoemen and the family religion is that of the Danish Lutheran church.

**Peter C. Nelson,** who farms in Milltown township on a scientific basis, was born in Milltown township, January 13, 1878, son of Jens and Christina (Jensen) Nelson, of whom mention will be found in this history in connection with the sketch of George A. Nelson. Peter C. was educated in Polk county, attended the common schools, took up farming, then entered the agricultural department of the State University at Madison and graduated in 1907. In his early days he also learned the trade of carpenter and worked at his trade two summers in Minneapolis, as well as around home. He now owns 160 acres in Milltown township, eighteen acres being under the plow and the rest woodland and pasture. He carries on general farming and makes a specialty of raising pure bred Oxford down sheep and dairying with pure bred Ayrshires. A barn 44x90 feet houses his grain and stock, and the family residence is comfortable and well furnished. A Republican in politics, Mr. Nelson is at present serving as justice of the peace. He was married, in September, 1907, to Dora K. Peterson, daughter of M. C. Peterson, one of the old settlers of Polk county, having settled here in 1868. This union has been

blessed with one son, Milton H. Mr. Nelson has traveled in seventeen of the northwestern states, visiting most of the principal cities. He has also traveled in the Dominion, in Vancouver, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec.

**Hemming Olsen,** proprietor of the Milltown hotel, the only hotel in Milltown, Wis., was born in Denmark, May 17, 1849, son of Ole and Christine Larsen, who came to the United States in 1873, settled in Polk county, Wisconsin, took up their home with their son and later went to live with others of their children. The father died at the good old age of ninety-three years. Hemming engaged in farming in early life and made a great success of that occupation. He owns 160 acres of land, one-half in Milltown township and the rest in Luck township, upon which he carries on mixed farming, and feeds and ships cattle on a large scale. In 1903 he purchased the hotel and now runs it in connection with the livery business. He has a good amount of custom, runs a good steam-heated hotel and is liked by all with whom he comes in contact. A Republican in politics, he has served as side supervisor and as a constable. Mr. Olsen was married in 1879 to Christie Sund, daughter of L. L. Sund, of whom a sketch is found in this history. By this union there are three children: Ole, manager of the livery at Milltown, Marie and Lars. When Mr. Olsen came here he had $1.50 in his pocket, and everything that he now owns has been gained by his own hard work. When he came here he took up his residence in a log cabin and for twenty years thereafter lived therein. He has many interesting stories to tell of the early days, when deer were plentiful, bears not infrequent and wild game of all sorts still prowled the woods.

**J. A. Smith,** of the firm of Smith & Rohr, is a native of this county, born in Osceola, March 28, 1874, son of John and Lizzie Smith. The father died in 1885 and the mother now makes her home at Luck. Mr. Smith was educated in Osceola, farmed and then ran a dray for several years. He then came to Milltown and engaged in the saw mill business for himself. This he continued for five years. Subsequently he went to Luck and took up the implement business for four years. In 1907 he came to Milltown village and established his present business in connection with Mr. Rohr. Mr. Smith has also been in the stock business and he and his partner buy and ship all kinds of stock on a large scale. He is married and has one child, Gladys.

**J. L. Sund,** general merchant at Milltown, Wis., was born in Denmark, June 28, 1859, son of L. C. L. and Ingar (Jensen) Sund, who settled in Polk county in 1873, farming in Milltown until the time of their deaths. Mr. Sund received but a few months'

schooling, but has picked up a good business education. For about twenty-one years he worked on a farm. When a young man he cleared 100 acres of land, and for fourteen winters he worked in the lumber woods, with three summers on the river. In 1898 he engaged in the general store business, starting the establishment now known as the Milltown Department Store. This is the largest store in the village and carries the largest stock of any store in the county. The custom in this store is large and its reputation has always been of the best, its past record assuring people that whatever they buy of Mr. Sund will be of good quality and honestly represented. In addition to his store in Milltown, Mr. Sund owns 640 acres of land in North Dakota, where he carries on farming on a large scale. The farm is well improved. On the place are sixteen head of horses, and valuable farm machinery costing about $10,000. Our subject attends the Danish Lutheran church, belongs to the Odd Fellows and votes the Republican ticket. He was married, in 1881, to Christine Laursen, who has borne him seven children: Marie, Martin, Louise, Julia, George Dewey, William McKinley and Irven.

**S. K. Twetten,** cashier of the Milltown State Bank, of Milltown, Wis., has a long record of public office holding. A Republican in politics, he has been assessor of Laketown township fourteen years, treasurer several terms, town chairman three years and school officer for a considerable period. For four years he was register of deeds of his county. In all of these positions he has served with distinction and has well justified the trust that has been imposed in him. Our subject was born in Norway, April 21, 1851, coming to America with his parents at the age of fourteen years and settling in Pleasant Spring, Dane county, Wis., where his father passed away. His mother died in Polk county, Wisconsin, in 1903. He was educated in the schools of Norway and Dane county, Wisconsin, for a short period, but the larger part of his education has been obtained by himself as the result of wide reading and close observation. He worked on a farm until 1870, when he came to Laketown, Polk county, and worked on the river and in the woods for six years, afterward settling on his present farm of 180 acres in Laketown, Wis. In 1903 he left the farm for four years during his term as register of deeds. In 1907 he returned to the farm for a time and then became cashier in the bank. This bank has a capital stock of $12,000, and Judge Charles H. Oakey is its president. Mr. Twetten was married in 1880 to Bertha Rude, by whom he has had seven children: Jennie, a teacher; Annie, living in Burnett county; Hannah, at home; Clara, a teacher; Laura, in the bank; Seymour, a

pupil in the St. Croix Falls High School, and Walter, at home. The family attends the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. and Mrs. Twetten now makes their home in Milltown, Wis. Mr. Twetten is a public spirited man and holds the confidence and esteem of the community.

## CHAPTER LII.

## POLK COUNTY.

**Osceola Village—Manufacturing Interests—Early History—Boat Industry in the Early Days—Some Early Beginnings—Pioneers Who Came in the Early Years—Osceola Township—Biography—Crops—Stock and Acreage—Natural Wealth and Progressiveness.**

### OSCEOLA VILLAGE.

Osceola village is on the bluffs which line the eastern shore of the St. Croix river, about twenty miles from Stillwater. During the past few years the place has improved in many ways, in the character of its business houses as well as its beautiful dwellings. Most branches of business are represented here, and the educational facilities are unexcelled in any other place of like population. There are a graded and a high school, with 125 pupils in the former and 75 in the latter, with six teachers, with a fine commodious school building costing $6,000. The Methodists, Baptists and Lutherans have congregations and church buildings and exert a healthy influence on the community. The general business stores are conducted by Joseph Geiger, the Osceola Mercantile Company and Olsem & Dehmer. The drug business is conducted by C. W. Staples, the hardware business by John N. Feyder and Frank Marsh. The only furniture business is conducted by C. E. Staples, the farm implement by Louis Schmidt. the harness business by Jacob Stilling and Anton Olsen. The restaurant trade is managed by E. B. Ames and Edward Brevold, the millinery by Florence Feyder, the blacksmithing by the Nord Bros. and David Connor. The lumber trade is in the hands of M. J. O'Rielly, who also operates lumber yards at Centuria, Taylors Falls, Dresser Junction and Nye; the milling business by the Osceola Mill & Elevator Company, which also buys and sells hay, grain and all kinds of produce; the meat market by F. O. Nagler. The attorney is C. M. Lynn, the dentist W. G. Ashton and the physician H. E. Combacker. Manufacturing is not carried on to any great extent excepting flour and feed stuff, by the Osceola Mill & Elevator Company, which owns and occupies two mills and a $50,000 elevator at this place and several elevators at other stations.—C. W. S.

Osceola village was organized August 10, 1887. The first

officers were: President, H. B. Dyke; trustees, W. C. Reilly, R. S. Sutton, G. W. De Long, H. C. Combacker, Paul Filzen and S. C. Benjamin; clerk, S. Rowcliff; treasurer, C. W. Staples; supervisor, G. D. McDill; justice of the peace, George Wilson; police justice, T. Post.

The First Baptist church in Osceola was built in 1857, and organized August 1 of that year. This church celebrated its fiftieth anniversary June 18, 1907. During that period it had fifteen different pastors. The church has two of its members from 1857 still living in Osceola. In the early '60s Rev. Stephen Roese, who died about ten years ago at his home in Maiden Rock, father of A. E, Roese, publisher of "The Sun" at that place, was one of its many pastors.

William Kent located here in 1844. He was a member of the Osceola Lumber Company, which built a mill 40x60 in size, the power being furnished by Osceola creek. The capacity was 10,000 feet in twenty-four hours. The property changed hands and in 1856 the Kent Bros. became the owners. The firm failed in 1862. Other mills for flouring purposes were built later, which after years of experiment were abandoned. A general merchandise establishment was opened in the village, continuing but a few years. Another store was opened in 1856 by Wyckoff & Stevens, another by Mr. Fisk and the fourth by Rice Webb in 1857. Many others engaged in the mercantile pursuits: E. H. Armstrong; Dresser, Wilson & Armstrong; P. B. Lacy, J. H. Johnson, A. A. Heald, B. A. Thing, Stephen Rowcliff, and perhaps others. In 1858 Sam Fifield and Dr. C. B. Marshall opened a drug store. Robert Kent was the first dealer in furniture. The first boat built in the valley was by Holmes & Cummings and was named "Osceola." The next by Stover & Barns in 1867. In 1868 the "G. B. Knapp" was built by Oscar F. Knapp. Many boats have been built there since: "The Dalles," "Minnie Will," "Nellie Kent," "Helen Marr" and "Maggie Reaney." Among the early settlers were: Harmon Crandall, William Ramsey, Charles Ayers, C. W. Peaslee, Isaac W. Hale, Charles Lea, Joel Scott, H. B. Nason, J. B. Wright, Nelson McCarty and J. S. Godfrey, who arrived between the years 1848 and 1852. The first birth reported in Osceola was that of a daughter of W. C. Guild; the first death that of Leroy Hubbard, in 1846, who was killed by a falling limb. The next was that of Mrs. Close in 1847. The first marriage was that of William Kent and Miss Ellen Kidder, May 22, 1855; also on the same date that of Isaac Freeland and Agnes Kent. Rev. Mr. Fullerton, of Stillwater, was invited to perform the ceremonies; but the patience of the parties was sorely tried by the delay in the arrival of the boat bringing the divine who was to officiate, the steamer resting on a

sand bar. The proposition to postpone the ceremony was voted down and a justice of the peace was called, who proceeded to tie the knot, the boat arriving just in time for the minister to make the closing prayer. The first preaching was by Rev. Mr. Breck, an Episcopal from St. Paul. A Methodist Episcopal church organization was effected in 1854 under the administration of Rev. G. M. Hilton. The first Baptist church was organized in 1857 with six members and a church erected in 1860. A Masonic lodge was organized June 10, 1862, with seven charter members. Osceola Lodge of I. O. O. F. organized March 8, 1879, with twenty-eight charter members. Another lodge of the I. O. O. F. was organized in February, 1877, with thirty-eight charter members. The first hotel was built by Kent Bros. and the second by Isaac Freeland in 1856, and the next by Mrs. Elizabeth Hayes in 1857. The "Northwestern Hotel" was commenced in 1857 and completed in 1860 by John Webb and John Irish, which was burned in December, 1875. The Wilson House was opened in 1875. The first school house was built in 1852 by Kent Bros. The first school, supported by private subscription, was taught by William A. Tallboys in 1845, and another school building in 1869, and a high school in 1874, the latter being in operation only three years. The first postoffice was established in 1854, W. C. Guild postmaster. Mr. Guild held the position until August, 1875, when Stephen Rowcliff was appointed. Dr. Hammond located in the village in 1858; Dr. C. P. Garlick in 1860. Dr. Gray practiced medicine a short time. At the close of the war came Dr. Brooks with Dr. J. R. M. Gaskill, remaining one year. Dr. C. B. Marshall came in 1866 and Dr. Searles in 1876. Dr. Hardwig Runge came in 1881 and was joined soon thereafter by Henry E. Combacker. Isaac Freeland was the first attorney from 1855 to 1870. An attorney of the early days was Decatur Williams; Marcus Dowling in 1860; George McDill in 1872. The streets of Osceola were lighted by electricity on Wednesday evening, May 20, 1908.

**William G. Ashton** is a native of New York City, born June 4, 1848, son of William and Mary (Fearon) Ashton, natives of England, the father having been born July 30, 1820, and the mother in 1818. They came to America in 1847 and located in New York City, remaining until July 13, 1849, when they removed to Beaver Dam, Dodge county, this state, the father engaging in his trade of blacksmith until 1861, when he responded to Lincoln's first call for volunteers in April, 1861, being one of those heroes of whom the song was written:

"We're coming, Father Abraham,
Five hundred thousand strong."

He enlisted in Company D, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was sent to Virginia, serving under Colonel Catlin. After fourteen months he was discharged for disability, receiving his papers at Washington, returning to Beaver Dam and opening a general merchandise store under the firm name of Hanson & Ashton, continuing until 1870, when he retired and spent his time looking after his beautiful place. The mother died in 1882 on the old homestead. William G. received a common school education at Beaver Dam, went to the high school in that place and then attended the Wayland University three years. His first work was for O. M. Warner, hardware dealer, after which he worked successively for W. H. Thorp, jeweler, Beaver Dam; Dr. J. P. Jackson, now of Milwaukee, and Dr. E. N. Clark, of Beloit, Wis. He then went to Prairie du Sac and bought a dental business from the widow of Dr. A. Drew, then recently deceased, and opened up for himself. He continued there until December, 1877, when he took a trip to Randolph county, Georgia, and purchased 100 acres of land, entering into the peach business, the first orchard of peaches to be conducted in that locality. He also kept up his dental practice and in 1881 returned to Charlotte, Mich., opening another dental office. In April, 1884, he removed to Millbank, S. D., practicing his profession there until 1899. In 1900 he came to Osceola and bought a beautiful home, opening an office, which he still conducts. He has made several alterations and improvements on his Cascade street residence and has it neatly furnished throughout. The dental office is also nicely equipped with all the latest appliances, skillfully manipulated by Dr. Ashton's gifted hands. Dr. Ashton was married, September 28, 1875, to Alice Chatfield, of Beaver Dam, this state, daughter of George B. and Eliza (Marshall) Chatfield, prominent people of that town. This union has been blessed with six children: William, died in infancy; Harold was born November 17, 1877, and died in April, 1906. He was a printer for the "Pioneer Press" at St. Paul, Minn., for several years. George I. was born July 6, 1880. He is cashier of the St. Paul Foundry Company, married Bessie Bolton, of St. Paul, and has one daughter, Ruth E., born February 18, 1908. Winiruth E. was born November 4, 1888, and graduated from the Osceola High School, being a talented pianist. Mark M. was born November 2, 1890, and graduated from the Osceola High School in 1908. Aubrey A., born May 21, 1893, is now at school. Dr. Ashton is a Republican in politics, a Congregationalist in faith and a member of the Masonic order. He has served as clerk of the school board of Osceola and was director of the village board three terms, receiving every vote cast at each election. While in South Dakota he was a delegate from Roberts county to form the

constitution of South Dakota in 1888. He is a hard worker, a skilled practitioner, an affable gentleman and a good citizen, an ardent friend of the public school system.

**H. E. Combocker, M. D.,** is a native of Boston, Mass., born December 27, 1853, son of John F. and Maria A. Ferlein, natives of Germany who came to America in 1843 and located in New York City. The father then enlisted in the Mexican war, serving entirely through that conflict. At the close of the hostilities he went to Boston and took up his trade of manufacturing cigars. He was married shortly after returning to Boston and continued his trade of cigar making until 1857, when he came to Wisconsin, taking up a farm at Somerset, in the meanwhile disposing of his interests in Boston. He took up 400 acres, which he broke and improved, conducting a general farming but raising mostly grain. In 1884 he sold a part of the farm and removed to Stillwater, Minn., where he built a house on North Hill and resided there until July 13, 1887, when upon the death of his wife he decided to retire. Shortly after his wife's burial he went to Lake Elmo, Minn., to live with his daughter, Mrs. Charles Kern, at whose home he died, December 5, 1890. He had four children: Josephine was born February 13, 1850, and married Charles Kern, of Lake Elmo; H. E. was the second child; Albert was born in January, 1857, married Ada Brown, of Hudson, Wis., and is now an attorney of Ellsworth, Wis.; Emma was born in 1859 and married Ruben Perkins, of Detroit, Minn., a traveling salesman. Mrs. Perkins is a graduate of the University of Michigan. H. E. received a common school education and attended the University of Wisconsin from 1874 to 1877, afterward entering the medical department of the University of Michigan, from which he graduated June 26, 1879. He practiced at Somerset, this state, for one year, and then came to Osceola, October 12, 1880, taking up the practice of medicine, which he has continued to conduct successfully, making hundreds of friends among the families whose hearts he has gladdened by his skillful administration of medicine and surgery during the hours of sickness and misfortune. In 1884 he bought a home on Cedar street, which he improved and repaired. He also owns a fine office on Cascade street. He is a Republican in politics and has served several terms as village treasurer, also being treasurer of the school board for six years. He belongs to local medical societies and to the American Medical Association. He is a Mason and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. For twenty-one years he has occupied his present position of surgeon for the Soo Line and he has been a United States pension and examining surgeon since 1882, all the old line insurance companies also employing him as their examiner. Dr. Combocker was married, May 7,

1882, to Minnie B. Smith, of this place, daughter of E. C. Smith, a blacksmith. By this union there were two children: Leon C. was born December 7, 1884, and received his degree of Bachelor of Arts from the University of Michigan in 1907, being now engaged in studying medicine. Marjorie, born May 19, 1891, is a student in the Osceola High School. Mrs. Minnie Combocker died June 2, 1891, death resulting from an abscess. Dr. Combocker was married again, June 21, 1893, to Julia Ridly, of Grinnell, Ia., daughter of Charles A. and Anna M. Brown, of that place. To this union one child was born, Howard R., born July 17, 1901.

**George M. Corey** was born in Mansfield, Mass., December 18, 1852, son of Joseph S. and Pamelia (Foster) Corey, of whom mention will be found in connection with the sketch of Frank L. Corey. George M. came to Osceola with his parents in April, 1856, and received his education in the public schools of this place. Mr. Corey was married, May 28, 1876, to Margaret Montgomery, daughter of John and Agnes (Patterson) Montgomery, of whom mention is found in this history. This union has resulted in nine children: Percy, William, Ralph, Orin, Lester, Mary, Lucile, Lyda and Zelma. Lester and Lyda are deceased.

**Robert Downend,** the genial, popular and accommodating postmaster of Osceola, Wis., was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1834, and came to America with his parents, James and Mary (Ward) Downend, while still an infant. His parents settled in New York state, Oneida county, and died there. Robert received his education in the common schools of New York state and farmed a short time, after which he started work in a lumber mill while still very young. In 1856 he came to Wisconsin and located near Hudson one year, then settling in Osceola in the spring of 1857, engaging in lumbering, which he followed for several years on the river and in the woods. Subsequently he served seven years as treasurer of Polk county and was then appointed surveyor general of logs and lumber in this district for several years. His work in this capacity attracted favorable notice and from that time on he was employed by various companies to scale logs. In 1861 our subject enlisted in Company D, Second Wisconsin Cavalry, and served in the Army of the West, doing service mostly in the Western states. Mr. Downend is a Republican in politics and has been treasurer, assessor and member of the town board. He affiliates with the Masons and the G. A. R. His appointment as postmaster dates from 1897, since which time he has given great satisfaction. The subject of this sketch was married, October, 1877, to Matilda Johnson, of Swedish descent, whose parents spent their latter days in this community. Mr. and Mrs. Downend have been

blessed with two children: James Garfield and Merlie, both of whom are at home.

**Joseph Geiger** was born in Farmington, this county, September 26, 1866, son of Veit Geiger and Genefeva (Grupp) Geiger, natives of Wurtemburg, Germany. The mother came to this country in 1852 and the father came in 1854, locating in Ohio. They first met at Taylors Falls, Minn., where they were married, November 8, 1855, by Justice Newberry. Mr. Geiger worked for about a year in a brick yard at Taylors Falls, removing to Farmington in 1855 and purchasing eighty acres of land, which he broke and improved, doing all the work with oxen. He conducted general farming until 1867, when he came to Osceola and opened a brewery, which he managed until 1881, when he discontinued the business. In 1885 he opened a large general store, which he operated until the time of his death, April 10, 1891 . The mother is still living. Veit Geiger served in the Civil War under General U. S. Grant, being a private in Company F, Sixth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was wounded in battle and taken to a hospital and the war ceased while he was recuperating there. He also belonged to the Iron Brigade. Joseph received an education in the common schools and at the Osceola High School. After leaving school he went to work in the father's store, becoming manager upon the latter's death. In looking after the interests of the store he has been assisted by his sisters, Rosina and Theresa. The store is a large one and carries a heavy stock of the best goods, commanding a big trade for many miles around. Aside from his interest in the business Mr. Geiger owns a farm about three miles south of the village of Osceola. His mother owns the store building and the lot it stands on. Mr. Geiger is a hard working and industrious merchant, a good citizen and an upright man. He was married, May 31, 1899, to Emma Brenner, daughter of Charles Brenner, of Stillwater, Minn. This union has been blessed with three children: Genefeva, born July 5, 1900; John, born June 14, 1902, and Louise, born August 7, 1904. Mr. Geiger is a Republican in politics, a communicant of the Catholic church and a member both of the I. O. O. F. and the Modern Woodmen of America. For several years he served as village trustee. In Mr. Geiger's parents' family there were eight children. The first three died in infancy. Rosina was born December 17, 1862, and married Frank Nagler, president of the village of Osceola. Mr. Nagler runs a meat market and is interested in the Osceola Mill & Elevator Company. Mary was born in 1864 and died at the age of six years. Joseph was the sixth in the family. Theresa was born May 29, 1872, and married William Hillskotter, who is also interested in the Osceola Mill & Elevator Company. John was born December 21, 1874, and died June 16, 1897.

VEIT GEIGER

He was a graduate of the medical department of the University of Minnesota and at the time when fatally stricken by typhoid fever was an interne in the city hospital at Minneapolis. The entire family is highly esteemed throughout the locality.

**Harry C. Harding** was born in Vandalia, Ill., February 29, 1876, son of Myron J. and Mary L. (Cooper) Harding. The father was born in Lagrange county, Indiana, and in the early days settled in Vandalia, Ill., where he became a prominent merchant. Harry C. was educated in the public and high schools of his native town and came to Osceola in 1894, entering the Bank of Osceola as cashier, in which capacity he has continued for fourteen years. During his long period of service he has acquired an intimate knowledge of banking and banking methods and is now regarded as an expert in that line. He holds stock in the bank and owns nice property in the village. Mr. Harding is a public-spirited man and is a leader in all movements for the public good. A man of wide education himself, he is a sincere friend of the public school system. He affiliates with the Masons and the Modern Woodmen of America. He and his wife attend the Methodist Episcopal church, in which they are prominent workers.

Mr. Harding was married, in 1899, to May E. Benjamine, daughter of Samuel C. and Ellen (Marvin) Benjamine, natives of New York state and Michigan, respectively.

Following is the report of the financial condition of the Bank of Osceola at the close of the business July 15, 1908. It is made out by Mr. Harding, attested by Margaret C. Oakey and Jean A. Sleeper, directors, and sworn before Jean A. Sleeper, notary public.

Resources—Loans and discounts, $182,044.40; bonds, $7,500; banking house, $2,200; furniture and fixtures, $1,757.80; other real estate owned, $4,830.05; due from banks, $31,178.23; checks on banks and other cash items, $154.22; cash on hand, $8,314.88.

Liabilities—Capital stock paid in, $25,000; surplus fund, $2,175; undivided profits, $2,213.46; dividends unpaid, $2,924; individual deposits subject to check, $52,332.42; demand certificates of deposit, $3,854.20; time certificates of deposit, $149,480.50.

Total resources, $237,979.58; total liabilities, $237,979.58.

**William Hillskotter** first saw the light of day in Stillwater, Minn., September 21, 1866, son of Herman and Sophia Hillskotter, of Germany. The parents came to America in the fifties and located at St. Louis, Mo., later moving to Stillwater, Minn., the father lumbering in both places. In the sixties they came to Farmington township, Wisconsin, and bought 120 acres of land, which they broke and improved, carrying on a diversified farm-

ing. The father, who was born August 26, 1826, was married at Stillwater, Minn., September 16, 1855, and died at Farmington township, Wisconsin, November 4, 1899. The mother is still living on the old homestead at the age of seventy-four years, having been born in 1834. They had twelve children: Herman, William died in infancy; Christian died in infancy; Louis died July 9, 1888, at the age of twenty-six years; G. G.; William, the subject of this sketch; Otto, Henry, J. E., Edward, Fred and Minnie, the latter married to A. V. Newman. William received his education in the common schools of Farmington and did various labor until 1896, when he entered into partnership with F. O. Nagler in the grain and implement business, Mr. Hillskotter being vice-president and Mr. Nagler president. In 1900 Mr. Hillskotter purchased a comfortable home on Essex street in the village of Osceola. The subject of this sketch was married, May 29, 1894, to Theresa Geiger, of Osceola, born May 29, 1872. This union has been blessed with two children: Veit J., born January 4, 1897, and Dora S., born November 1, 1898. He has served as trustee of the village and belongs to both the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen.

**Isaac Hale** was born in Harmony, Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, January 22, 1830, son of Isaac W. and Nancy (McKune) Hale, natives of Pennsylvania. He was educated in the common schools of New York state and came to Osceola, Wis., July 4, 1851, engaging in surveying in and about the state line from Superior, Wis., to the St. Croix river. In 1853 he purchased 120 acres of government land at $1.25 an acre, broke and improved the land, erecting a residence, barns and outbuildings. He carried on general farming with great success and was on the wave of prosperity when the Civil war broke out. He then enlisted at Osceola, January 5, 1863, in Company D, Second Wisconsin Cavalry, under Captain Burnell and Colonel Stevens, scouting through Missouri. He participated in the battle of Egypt station, Miss., on the M. & O. R. R., where the loss was 2,280 men, his company making one of the cavalry charges. He also took part in a number of skirmishes and received his discharge at Madison, Wis., in November, 1865. Before going to the war he was married, March 21, 1861, to Annie E. Corey, of Massachusetts, daughter of Joseph S. and Pennia A. (Foster) Corey, natives of that state, who emigrated to Osceola in 1856, both being now deceased. Upon his return from the war he again took up farming. In 1903 he erected a beautiful house at a cost of $2,500 and the following year he built a barn valued at $3,000. He now carries on a general farming and stock raising business, also breeding some good horses. Mr. Hale is a Republican in politics and has served the village, town and county in a number

ISAAC W. HALE

of public positions. He was the first deputy sheriff of Polk county, serving under E. C. Treadwell. He was clerk of the school board several terms and has been marshal of the village of Osceola. In religious faith he is a Baptist, and he also affiliates with McKinzie Post, No. 102, G. A. R., of St. Croix Falls, Wis.

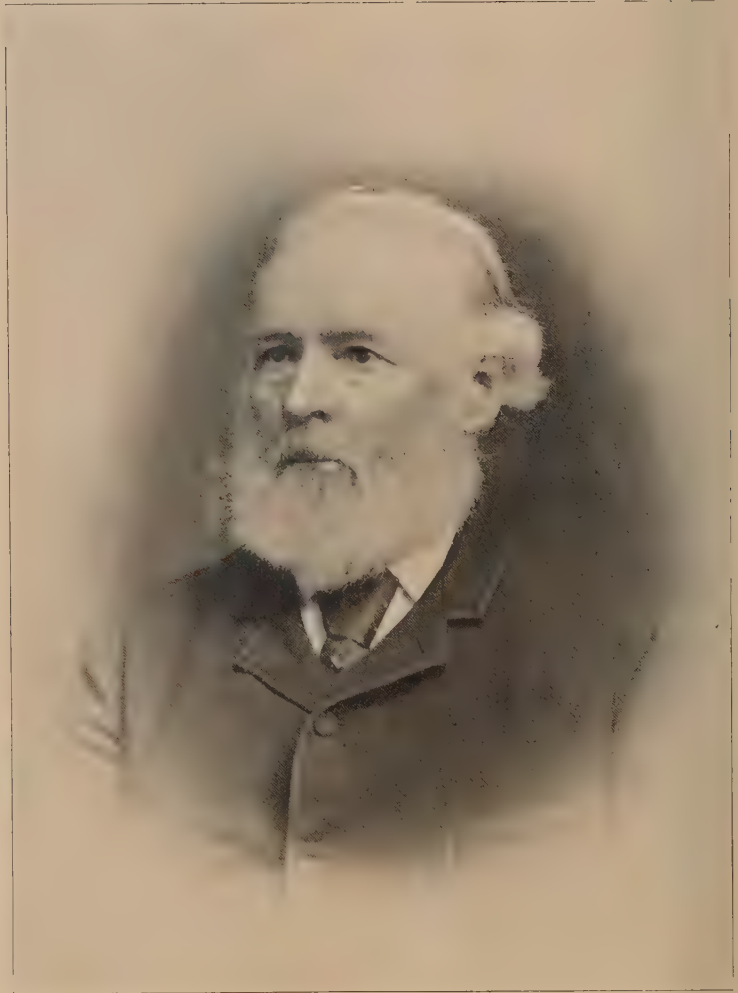
**Judge Isaac W. Hale** was born in Harmony, Pa., March 11, 1802, and spent his early life on the farm. In 1862 he engaged in lumbering on the Susquehanna river and two years later he became a pilot on that river in the same line of business, remaining until 1836, when he moved to Cattaraugus county, New York, and continued his profession as a pilot on the Ohio and Alleghany rivers. In 1851 he brought his family to Wisconsin via the rivers and located on section 26, Osceola township, Wisconsin, where he took up 160 acres, which he broke and improved, carrying on general farming until the time of his death. In 1853 he was elected first county judge of Polk county, holding that office for eight years. He was also town superintendent. In his younger days Judge Hale was quite a sportsman, and there are living many people who still remember the interesting stories which he was wont to tell of his pursuit of the deer. Judge Hale was married in 1826 to Nancy McKune, from Orange county, New York. Seven children were the result of this union: John, Esther, Isaac, Melvin, Achsah E., Silas F. and Reuben W. Judge Hale passed away September 13, 1892, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. E. C. Treadwell, in the town of Osceola at the advanced age of ninety years, six months and two days. He is buried in the Hale cemetery. His wife passed away in 1880. Judge Hale was a man whose influence has left its impress on the life of the county. Coming here in the early days, his character had much to do with the high moral tone which this village has always maintained. He was a staunch friend, one who never went back on his word. He was of a quiet disposition, never forcing himself forward—one of those of whom it may truly be said that those who knew him best loved him best. He was a loving and considerate father and was universally revered throughout the valley.

**Capt. William Kent,** one of the pioneers of Polk county, will long be remembered not only for the part he had in the early life of the county, but also for his staunch, manly character. He loved honor because he was honest himself; he respected righteousness because he was himself righteous, and he revered kindliness because he himself was of a kindly disposition. His unswerving justice was tempered with mercy, and, although he was of steadfast character himself, he was never intolerant of mistakes in others. His genial character, his vigorous, sturdy walk, his cheering words and his strong face became a part of

the life of the village of Osceola, and his death left, indeed, a vacancy in the community that none of the younger men who have followed in his footsteps can ever hope to fill. Mr. Kent was born in Frederickton, N. B., April 22, 1824. During his early youth his parents moved to Maine, from where they soon afterward emigrated West, arriving at Galena, Ill., in 1843, and at St. Croix Falls, Wis., in 1844, since which time Captain Kent continued to reside in Polk county until the time of his death, making his residence in the village of Osceola for nearly sixty years. He was one of the original owners and builders of the first mill at Osceola, erected in 1849, and from time to time purchased the interests of the other partners until he became sole owner of the mill and town site. In 1853 he sold the mill to B. H. Campbell, of Galena, Ill., and for many years thereafter engaged in steamboating up and down the St. Croix and the Mississippi, being still remembered as one of the most genial and popular commanders on the rivers. He built three steamboats, the "Nellie Kent," the "Helen Mar" and the "Maggie Reanny." When the introduction of railroads made steamboat traffic profitless he engaged in mercantile pursuits, which he followed until within a few years of his death when he retired. He took an active interest in public affairs and was the first county treasurer of Polk county. At one time he was county judge. He was a charter member of the Masonic lodge of Osceola, which held its first communication in 1862. He was also a popular and influential member of the Eastern Star. Captain Kent was married, May 22, 1855, to Ellen Kidder, daughter of Timothy and Lurinda (Hunt) Kidder, of New Fane, Vt., the former of whom was a cabinet maker. The widow still survives, also a daughter, Mrs. William Foster. He also had three sisters: Mrs. Guild, of St. Paul, Minn.; Mrs. Cown and Mrs. Goodwin, of Osceola. A brother, John Kent, died in 1908. The family religion is that of the Methodist church. Mr. Kent passed away January 9, 1904, aged seventy-nine years, eight months and seventeen days. He is laid at rest in Mount Hope Cemetery at Osceola.

**Adolph Larson,** proprietor of the famous Bethania Mineral Springs, is one of the leading business men of Osceola. He is widely educated and a studious reader, being well abreast of the times on all of the topics of the day. He is progressive and active, and has great faith in the future of Osceola as a business center. He was born in Columbia county, Wisconsin, May 13, 1871, son of Ole Larson. Adolph received his education in Polk county and afterward attended the normal school at River Falls, Wis. Subsequently he attended Georgetown University at Washington, D. C., and received his bachelor's degree at St. Olaf College. This was supplemented with a post-graduate course in

WM. KENT



Daniel Means

the University of Minnesota, after which Mr. Larson taught in the Lutheran Theological Seminary. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Masons and the Modern Woodmen. He has also served as justice of the peace. Mr. Larson was married in 1895 to Eunice Kannary, by whom he has one daughter, Eunice.

**Carl M. Lynn** is a native of Sweden, born in Parish Dadsjo, province of Smaland, February 21, 1865, son of Jonas P. and Stina K. (Strand) Lynn, who came to this country in April of 1868 and located at Prairie Hollow, Franconia, Chisago county, Minn. They bought 140 acres, broke and improved the land and carried on general farming. The father was born November 10, 1840, and the mother December 9, 1841, both being still alive on the old homestead. They were the parents of five children: Carl M. is the oldest; John O. was born March 10, 1878, and is now farming on the old homestead; Josephine was born May 10, 1876, and married Alven Wanzer, a collector at Minneapolis, Minn.; Hilda, born April 23, 1882, is a dressmaker and milliner; Ida E., born March 24, 1885, is proofreader for the West Publishing Company, of St. Paul, Minn. Carl M. was brought up on the old homestead, attended the common schools and worked at various occupations, by which he earned enough money to take a three-year course in college, two years being spent at the Northern Indiana Normal School, now the Valparaiso University, at Valparaiso, Ind. He then studied law with Whitney & Upton, leading attorneys of Waukegan, Ill., for four years, and in the fall of 1896 was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of Wisconsin. Soon afterward he opened a law office, which he has since conducted with the exception of about a year, when he was away.

Mr. Lynn was married, June 30, 1901, to Ida M. Holcombe, of Franconia, daughter of Solomon and Bertha (Erickson) Holcombe, natives of Sweden, later farmers of Franconia. Mr. and Mrs. Lynn have no children. Mr. Lynn is a Republican in politics, a member of the Lutheran church and also of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has been trustee of the village board, is now village attorney and has recently been elected district attorney for Polk county. Attorney Lynn is an able pleader and learned office lawyer, one who inspires confidence in the hearts of all those with whom he does business.

**Daniel Mears** was one of the earliest settlers and pioneer business men of St. Croix Falls. Familiarly known as "Father Mears," he was for many years one of the landmarks of this village and had many interesting experiences to relate of the early days when he tramped the Northwest with Indian guides, long before the foot of civilization had placed its imprint upon these rich valleys and rolling hillsides. He watched the St. Croix val-

ley grow from a wilderness, and the business integrity and industry of this section is largely established upon the foundations which he laid in his early dealings. Daniel Mears was born in Lynn, Essex county, Mass., July 28, 1819. He attended the common schools, but his adventurous impulses early caused him to seek an active participation in the affairs of men, and at the age of twelve he went on a sailing vessel to the banks of Newfoundland, where he joined in a season's fishing for cod. Two years later he entered the employ of John Dexter in a general store at Essex, Mass., to which town the family had moved. After several years in this position he went to Boston, at that time the Mecca of all New England youths, and went to work for Ferguson & Co. in a boot and shoe store. In the meantime his former employer had gone into partnership and engaged in business under the firm name of Dexter, Harrington & Co. This firm offered him a position as foreman of the leather department in their store at Boston, which situation he accepted, remaining for several years. In the fall of 1848, at the age of twenty-nine, he came westward and located at St. Croix Falls as a representative of the company with whom he had previously been employed. This company was generally known throughout this section as the Boston Company by reason of the fact that the firm had its headquarters in that city. It owned large lumbering and sawmill interests on the St. Croix river and ran a general store at St. Croix Falls, of which Mr. Mears was in charge. At that time it was not a case of ordering goods and having them delivered in a few days, as at present, for every shipment entailed long, tedious and sometimes fatal delays. There was no railroad west of Buffalo, and goods were shipped from Boston to Buffalo by rail, thence by the lakes to Chicago, then hauled in teams 100 miles across northern Illinois to the Mississippi river, afterward up the Mississippi to the St. Croix by steamer and then up the St. Croix. The store in which Mr. Mears did business is still standing in St. Croix Falls. Dexter, Harrington & Company soon extended their interests and sent Mr. Mears to take charge of their mercantile, lumbering and sawmill holdings at the mouth of the Willow river, where the city of Hudson now stands. He remained in this position, also conducting heavy logging operations on the Willow river until 1855, when he moved to a farm near the village of Osceola, where he resided until the time of his death. He started farming on several hundred acres which he entered, but he also kept up the logging business, forming a partnership with John Dobney, of Taylors Falls, under the name of Mears & Dobney. This firm had extensive logging interests on the Ann and later on the St. Croix river. In politics, Mr. Mears was a life-long Democrat. In 1857 he was elected to the

Charles E. Mears.

Wisconsin state senate and served two years. He was frequently a candidate for county office, serving as chairman of the town board and as town treasurer for many years. About 1862 he was appointed the first resident insurance agent in Polk county, representing the Aetna Life Insurance Company, of Hartford, Conn. He kept this appointment until the time of his decease, making forty-four years continuous service, the longest term of any Polk county agent. Mr. Mears also had an honorable war record. He enlisted October 25, 1861 and served as second lieutenant of Company D, Second Wisconsin Cavalry for six months. He was married first, June 11, 1843, to Emeline Elizabeth Mendum, of Boston, Mass. By this union three sons were born: Charles E., David A. and Daniel W. Charles E. was born at Boston, Mass., January 8, 1844. His biography appears in this history. David A. was born at East Boston, Mass., July 15, 1845, and died at Ladysmith, Wis., February 17, 1904. He married Ida May Terry, of Clam Falls, Wis., and left one child, Ray. Daniel W. was born at East Boston, August 1, 1847. He married Emily Salsbery Clark, and runs a farm in Osceola. He has one daughter, Edna E. Emeline Mears died in Essex, Mass., in 1850, and Mr. Mears married Susan Florence Thomson, at Hudson, Wis., November 28, 1852. Of this union one daughter was born, Lura M. She first saw the light of day at Hudson, October 24, 1853, and married W. H. H. Wheeler, a farmer of Osceola. She has one child, Leslie M. Mrs. Susan Mears died in Osceola, January 10, 1897. Mr. Mears was an able business man, a fine type of the pioneers, who used honest methods at a time when by reason of the difficulty of securing supplies they could have easily imposed upon their fellow men. He was genial and affable, yet stern when dealing with those with whom sternness was necessary. He was honored and revered, and his death left a vacancy in the community that no other man can ever fill. He passed to his reward September 22, 1906, at the age of eighty-seven years, one month and twenty-five days, and his memory always will be held in hallowed and loving esteem.

**Charles E. Mears,** teacher and newspaperman, was born in Boston, January 8, 1844. He received an education in the common schools and in a printing office, in which latter he declares he learned as much as he did in school. He was brought up much as other New England boys, and was apprenticed for some time to a shoemaker. In 1857, at the age of thirteen years, he came to Osceola with his father and worked at farming, lumbering and rafting, the latter work being largely down the Mississippi river. When Lincoln's call came for volunteers, like so many young men of the period, he gave up his business to rush to the defense of his country. He enlisted October 25, 1861, and

was appointed a non-commissioned officer in Company D, Second Wisconsin Cavalry, and served as corporal under Captain J. H. Burnell and Colonel C. C. Washburn for nine months, until discharged at St. Louis, Mo., owing to illness, August 1, 1862. After a short time he entered an apprenticeship with the "Polk County Press" at Osceola. In 1864 he clerked in a general store, and in 1865 taught school for one year at Farmington. The following year he purchased one-half interest in the "Dunn County News," located at Menomonie, Wis., and conducted same until 1867, when he sold out and went to work on the "Durand Times," Durand village, Depin county, Wis. Again returning to Polk county he taught school in Farmington, and in 1869 was elected county superintendent of schools, continuing in this position until 1876. In 1876 he served as proofreader to the state assembly. While still county superintendent, he purchased the "Polk County Press," the paper upon which, as a boy, he had served his apprenticeship. He continued to run this paper as editor and proprietor for thirty-one years, until April, 1903, when he retired from newspaper work. During the years in which he handled the editorial pen of the "Press" he left his influence upon the community, and many of the things which he advocated stand today as monuments to his ability and influence. Upon retiring from the editorial desk he opened a real estate, loan and insurance office, in which he is at present engaged. Mr. Mears was married the first time to Henrietta A. Brown, of Grinnell, Ia., daughter of John and Maria (Grant) Brown, the father being an extensive grain and stock dealer. Henrietta Mears was born at Grinnell, Ia., May 12, 1860, and died in Osceola during the month of May, 1883. Mr. Mears married in 1884, his first wife's sister, Eliza, by whom he has two children. Henrietta, born July 14, 1887, and Emeline, born February 12, 1889. Both daughters are at home. Mr. Mears is a Republican. He belongs to Osceola Lodge, No. 134, F. & A. M. He was town clerk three and a half years and served as timber agent during a part of the administration of Governor Hoard, and during all of the terms of Governors Luddington, Smith and Rusk, a total of thirteen years. He possesses interests in wild land in Burnett county, Wisconsin. Of late he has spent considerable time in California. He is a hard working, industrious man, intelligent and well informed upon all the topics of the day. A firm believer in education, he has always been a friend of the public school system, and his influence has been widely felt. The name of Mears will ever remain an honored one in this community, having been honorably borne by both father and sons.

**F. M. Marsh** is a native of Germany, born February 10, 1876, son of Frederick and Hanna Marsh. The father came to America

in 1884, located in Osceola, Wis., and opened a meat market with his son in 1894, continuing until 1905, when he sold out and retired. F. A. Marsh was educated in the public schools and at the Stillwater Business college, worked for the Osceola Mineral Springs from 1892 to 1894, and then entered the meat business with his father. In 1905 he purchased the L. P. Mavesstead hardware business, located on Cascade street, in the village of Osceola, where he has since continued, carrying a large stock and enjoying a large trade. Mr. Marsh is accommodating and obliging, and is well liked by all who know him. A Republican in politics, he is now village trustee, serving his second term. He attends the Lutheran church and belongs to the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Marsh was married July 7, 1897, to Miss F. Sleeper, of Osceola, daughter of E. W. Sleeper, formerly of Kenyon, Minn., now of Bethel, Minn., where he is successfully engaged in farming.

**F. O. Nagler** first saw the light of day in Polk county, June 6, 1865, son of Lewis and Catherine (Schotmuller) Nagler, of West Baden, Germany. The parents landed in New York city, in 1855, spent one year in Ohio, and in 1856 located in Taylors Falls, Minn., afterward moving to Farmington township, this county, where the father ended his days. The mother still survives, making her home with her son. F. O. was the oldest child. Adolph C. lives on the old homestead, Tressa O. married Lewis Jacquet, and L. B., editor and owner of the "Observer" of Hudson, Wis., is chief clerk of the secretary of state. F. O. farmed until nineteen years of age, spent ten years in lumbering and other work, and in 1892 located in Osceola, later engaging in the retail meat trade, in which business he has since continued, running the only meat establishment in the place. He is also interested in the Osceola Mill and Elevator Company, with which he has been connected since 1902. He is a Democrat in politics and has served as president of the village of Osceola, in which position he has given much satisfaction. His fraternal associations include the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masons. Mr. Nagler has been successful in his undertakings and is regarded as one of the public spirited business men of the village. He was married in 1893 to Rosina Geiger, a sketch of whose family will be found in this work in connection with that of her brother, Joseph Geiger. This union has been blessed with four children: Leo, deceased; Genevieve, Leona and Lewis.

**Charles H. Oakey** was born in Madison, Wis., July 13, 1858, son of Henry and Sarah (White) Oakey. The father came from England in 1854, settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, and engaged in brick-laying, masonry and contracting for many years. He is now retired, making his home with his son, Charles H. Charles H. was educated in the common schools and was graduated from the

Wisconsin State Law school in June, 1879. The following year he came to Osceola and opened a law practice, which he has since continued. For some years he served as municipal judge and his judicial qualities in this capacity won for him the election as judge of the county in 1899, in which position he has continued until the present time. At once upon his arrival here he began to take an interest in public affairs, and in 1894 he was one of those men who helped to establish the Bank of Osceola, which was incorporated in August of that year. He is also interested as vice president in the Farmers and Merchants' bank, of Amery, this state; as president of the State Bank of Milltown, Wis., and as one of the stockholders of the State Bank of Luck, Wis. In company with Judge Ole Larson he opened a real estate and abstract office at Osceola and a branch office at Balsam Lake, Wis. Judge Oakey owns a fine home in the village surrounded by well-kept grounds, and well deserves the success that he has won.

Judge Oakey was married in 1884 to Margaret Cooper, of Illinois, daughter of Francis and Emeline (Hall) Cooper, of New York state. The father was a civil engineer, and in early life was a college professor. This union has been blessed with four children: Samuel F., Mabel L., Henry C. and Marion S. Charles H. Oakey is a Republican in politics and a member of the I. O. O. F. and the Modern Woodmen of America.

**L. W. Olson** was born in Nye, Polk county, June 30, 1880, son of Martin and Mary Olson, who came from Norway in 1860, the father, who was a sailor in the old country, having sailed two years on the Great Lakes. He then took up farming, and now lives in retirement at Nye, having served as county treasurer four years, town assessor twelve years, and held all the other town offices. He has eight children: L. W. was educated in the common and public schools of the county and began clerking in the L. B. Dresser store. He then worked for George Geiger as a clerk two years and subsequently, in 1907, engaged in the mercantile business under the firm name of Olson & Dehmer. The business has been successful and commands a good trade, both in the village of Osceola and from the surrounding country. In politics he is a Republican, and by fraternal affiliation an Odd Fellow, a Rebekah and a Modern Woodman. Mr. Olson married Pearl Churchill, daughter of George Churchill, of St. Croix Falls.

**William C. Reilly** was born in Bridgeport, Conn., August 16, 1850, son of Thomas and Mary (Rogerston) Reilly, natives of Ireland, who came to America in the early '20s. They located first at Bridgeport, where the father was a gardener for the late P. T. Barnum, the great showman, who had a magnificent resi-

dence, surrounded by beautiful grounds, in that city. In 1852 the family located at Urbana, Ohio, where the father took charge of a tan yard. After a stay in Chicago, where the head of the family was employed at his trade as painter for the Rock Island Railroad Company, they came to Franconia, Chisago county, Minn., taking up eighty acres of land, which they broke and improved. Both father and mother are now deceased. William C. received a good education, attending the Osceola schools a part of the time. In 1872 he located in Osceola and engaged in the meat and grocery business. In 1882 he bought the general merchandise business then owned by Mark Dresser, erected a new brick store building and continued in the mercantile business until 1887, when he sold his store property. That year he was elected sheriff of Polk county. For four years he was chairman of the Republican county committee. At the time of the organization of the village council he was a member of that body, in which capacity he served with great credit. He has represented the village on the county board for fourteen years, and served as chairman during the stirring days of 1894-1895, when the county seat war was on. In 1904 he was instrumental in organizing a county training school for teachers at St. Croix Falls, Wis. In this and in many other ways he has proven himself the friend of education, and his efforts have assisted materially in the educational progress of the county. He was elected treasurer of the first board of control, which position he still holds. For three years he was deputy head counsel of the Modern Woodmen of America, organizing lodges for that order. Mr. Reilly was married, December 15, 1878, to Rena Will, daughter of B. F. and Annis (Bradley) Will, prominent farmers of Osceola township. The father died in 1900 and the mother is still living on the old homestead. Mrs. Reilly passed to her eternal reward March 15, 1895. Mr. Reilly is a man of genial personality and upright character, a man whom it is a pleasure to meet, his services always being at the command of everything that tends to the good of the community. He is at present engaged in the insurance business in the village of Osceola.

**John Remley** has spent his entire life in the St. Croix valley. He was born in Farmington township, Polk county, August 20, 1857, son of John and Lena Remley, who came to the United States in 1850, staying four years in Ohio and then locating in Polk county, Wisconsin, where they lived for the remainder of their days, passing away there. John received his education in the common schools, after which he farmed until 1903. He met with considerable success, carrying on the usual agricultural operations, raising vegetables, small grains, stock and poultry. In 1903 ill health caused him to retire and, selling his farm, which

consisted of 120 acres, he moved into the village of Osceola, where he has since continued to live. For three years Mr. Remley drove teams for the Osceola Mill & Elevator Company and is now overseer for the Osceola property of I. C. Wyman, who has large business interests at St. Paul, Minn. During Mr. Remley's earlier days he worked for seventeen winters in the woods and had many interesting experiences. His father was a well-known hunter of the early times, and young John, both as a boy and a young man, often accompanied his father on these expeditions of hunting and trapping.

**C. E. Staples** is a native of Tioga county, Pennsylvania, born February 17, 1848, son of Samuel and Laura (Marshal) Staples, the former being a farmer. The family came westward in 1863, settling first at La Crosse, Wis. The father later went to live in Wenachee, Wash., and died there. C. E. Staples received his education in the public schools of La Crosse and learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for nearly forty years in Wisconsin, working on many important buildings, the majority of which are still standing. In 1878 he came to Osceola, continuing at his trade until 1906, when he bought out a furniture store and reconstructed the building, continuing the store to the present time, having the only furniture business in the township. He handles a standard grade of goods, and has won the confidence and esteem of the people with whom he has dealings for miles around. Mr. Staples was married, in 1876, to Martha Rand, daughter of James Rand. By this union there are three children: Lola, at home; Roscoe, who married Lizzie Agrell, and is a carpenter in Osceola, Wis., and George, who works in a store. Mr. Staples is a Republican in politics and has served on the village board. He owns some nice property in the village and has been successful in all his undertakings. He affiliates with the Masonic fraternity.

**Louis Schmidt** was born in Germany, June 16, 1858, son of August and Wilhelmina Schmidt, natives of Germany, who came to the United States in 1873, settling at Farmington, Wis., where the father died in 1904. The mother is still living and makes her home with her son, William. Louis received a good education in Germany and followed farming with his father for five years, then went to Stillwater, Minn., where he followed the mercantile business until 1882, when he started in business in Osceola, Wis. In 1890 he went into the implement business, which he has since continued with much success. He owns a house on Cascade street, which he bought of Oscar Knapp; also two of the main corners with buildings on Cascade street. Mr. Schmidt was married, November 4, 1883, to Emma Lendt, of Wyoming, Minn., daughter of Christian and Sophia (Baungarten) Lendt, natives of Germany.

The following children have been born: Bert, April 28, 1884; Clara, May 22, 1885; Ella, June 19, 1887; Arthur, November 11, 1890; Clarence, November 4, 1893; Roy, March 14, 1895; Irvin, April 5, 1900; Evelyn, November 2, 1904. Frederick, the fifth child, was born March 26, 1892, and died September 9, 1900. Mrs. Schmidt's parents now live in Nebraska. Mr. Schmidt is independent in politics, fraternizes with the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen, and belongs to the Lutheran church. He was deputy and under sheriff from 1892 to 1896, and then served as sheriff of Polk county for two years. He has also been on the Osceola village board.

**C. W. Staples** is a native of Bunker Hill, Ill., born October 8, 1852, son of C. H. and Hanna J. (Garland) Staples. The father was a native of Portland, Me., and moved to Illinois in 1845, engaging in his trade of miller. In 1855 he came to Osceola and built a mill in partnership with William Yeo, which he conducted until 1862. He was elected county clerk, served six years, then engaged in the merchandise business, and in 1870 succeeded W. C. Guild as a drug merchant and dispenser. This he continued until 1878, when he sold the store to his son, C. W., and retired on account of ill health. C. W. was educated in the common schools. At the age of eighteen, while working for Knapp, Stout & Co., of Rice Lake, this state, he studied medicine three years with a physician, afterward returning to Osceola and taking up work with his father until the time when he assumed the management of the place, which is the only drug store in the village. His business grew so rapidly that in 1905 he erected a new store and a stone residence on River street. Mr. Staples has always been actively interested in the politics of this county. For ten years he was chairman of the county board and is now serving his seventh year as supervisor of the assessments of the county. He was also chairman of the Republican county committee from 1880 to 1884. In fraternal circles he stands very high, having at one time occupied with great distinction the grand master's chair of the State Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The Modern Woodmen of America also number him among their members as past consul and clerk of the local camp at the present time. Mr. Staples was married, in 1878, to May Foster, daughter of True and Mary (Hayes) Foster, who were among the earliest settlers and became very prominent citizens of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Staples have one daughter, Irene M., who is at home.

**George A. Tewksbury,** the genial proprietor of the Edgewood House, Osceola, Wis., was born in the state of Maine, July 29, 1848, and is the son of David and Charlotte A. (Ketchum) Tewksbury, old settlers in Polk county. His father was a lumberman and brought his family to Farmington township, Wisconsin, in

1860, following farming and the logging business until his death in 1891. He was a veteran of the Civil war, having served one year. George A. was educated in the common schools and after leaving school took up farming and logging. He owned a farm of 200 acres of land in the town of Farmington, upon which he lived for twenty-six years. In 1878 he was married to Annie Marie, daughter of James and Amelia Cording, natives of England, who came to the United States in 1853 and settled first near Bunker Hill, Ill., and later in Farmington, Wis. Mrs. Tewksbury before her marriage was a teacher in the common schools of Polk county for a number of years. Mr. and Mrs. Tewksbury had three children: Daisy Mae, who in 1898 was married to J. D. Ramsey, of Superior, Wis., a railroad engineer; Della K. died in 1897 at the age of fifteen years, and Percy J. lives at home and holds a position as stenographer with the Osceola Mill & Elevator Company. Mr. Tewksbury is a Republican in politics and served several years on the town board and was clerk of the district school for fifteen years. In 1905 Mr. and Mrs. Tewksbury sold their farm and purchased "Edgewood" at Osceola, and at present are engaged in the hotel business.

**A. L. Thomas** is a native of Brownville, Me., born September 27, 1859, son of H. M. and Sherry T. Thomas, natives of Maine. In 1868 they migrated to Princeton, Minn., and in 1870 to Minneapolis, Minn. The father was a lumberman. He was born in 1821 and passed away in July, 1887. The mother was born in 1825 and now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. W. H. Best, of Fargo, N. D. A. L. received his education in Maine in the public school and at the State University at Minneapolis. In 1877 he came to Osceola, Wis., as bookkeeper in the T. G. Mayo flour mill. He then learned the miller's trade and continued with the same company until the mill burned down, July 4, 1880. Then he worked in a meat establishment until 1883, afterward resuming milling in the new mill until 1886. In the fall of that year he went into the meat business for himself. In 1891 he sold out and went to North Dakota, taking charge of the Douglas grain farm until 1907, when he returned to Osceola, Wis. The following year he bought ninety acres, which he developed and improved and continued to carry on general farming, raising grain, vegetables, stock, fowls and usual crops. A Republican in politics, Mr. Thomas is now a member of the village board. He attends the Congregational church and belongs to the Odd Fellows. He was married, July 17, 1883, to Minnie J. Will, of Osceola, daughter of Benjamin H. and Annis (Bradley) Will, natives of Illinois. Mrs. Thomas was born January 2, 1862. Her father died April 15, 1900, and her mother is still living, making her home with her. Mr. Thomas has a brother and a sister: Abbie, born August 7,

JOHN S. GODFREY

1851, married to W. H. Best, and F. C., born June, 1873. Mrs. Thomas has two sisters: Lizzie, born July 16, 1851, married to J. W. Smith, and upon his decease is now the wife of P. N. Butts, of Luck, Wis. Eight children have been born to her: Vernon, Wilbur, Ansley, Joy, Minniedell, Lillian, Belva and Oscar. Rena was born in 1853, married W. C. Riley and died March 15, 1885.

## OSCEOLA TOWNSHIP.

Osceola contains all of township 33, range 18, except the eastern tier of sections, and ten whole sections and some fractions of range 19. It is a rich agricultural township, consisting of a diversified table land terminating westward on the precipitous bluffs of the St. Croix. It has a good steamboat landing and two good creeks, Osceola and Close, which are noted for being fine brooks for trout fishing. The bluffs overlooking the St. Croix are for a great part precipitous, and most conspicuous among these bluffs is the promontory known as Eagle Point, situated just below Osceola landing. The cascade on Osceola creek, a few rods above its mouth, has scarcely a rival among the waterfalls of the Northwest. It has been called the Minnehaha of Wisconsin. While it resembles somewhat that celebrated cascade, the scenery around it is much wilder. There are many other minor waterfalls in the vicinity which possess great beauty and picturesqueness. This township has at the present time (1908) six fine school buildings and a number of churches. The name of the town was originally Leroy, in honor of Leroy Hubble. It is to be regretted that this name was not retained, in as much as Osceola, though the name of one of the most celebrated Indians in American history, is shared by a post town in the eastern part of the state. It was therefore necessary to call this post town Osceola Mills, a distinction that correspondents and postmasters are not always careful to make. The chairman of Osceola township is George F. Clark; clerk, A. F. Solomonson; treasurer, C. B. Clark; assessor, Victor E. Englund. There were in the township in 1908: 434 horses, assessed at $33,705; 1,928 neat cattle, assessed at $28,983; 558 sheep and lambs, assessed at $1,652; 305 swine, assessed at $1,843; 23,842.20 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $437,520; personal property, assessed at $106,296; total assessment, $543,816. The following acreage was devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 118; corn, 540; oats, 292; barley, 359; rye, 10; potatoes, 397; strawberries, 1½; raspberries, ½; hay, 1,844. The villages are Osceola, Nye, Sand Lake and Dresser Junction.

**John S. Godfrey,** now deceased, was born in upper Steniche, Nova Scotia, December 18, 1809, his forefathers being early settlers of the colonies, coming over from Wales and England about

1670, settling first in Connecticut and then in Massachusetts. Jonathan Godfrey, grandfather of John S. Godfrey, emigrated from Massachusetts to Nova Scotia in 1850 and raised a family of four sons and one daughter. The youngest son, Elisha, was John S. Godfrey's father. He raised a family of nine children, all of whom were respected residents of the various communities where they made their homes. Several of them are still living. The mother of John S. was Elizabeth Sibley before her marriage. She came of good English stock and was a doctor, school teacher and mother of a large family. She and young John S. had to care and provide for the family on account of the father's losing the use of his right hand, and John S. had to dig in the roots and rocks, while the mother taught school and practiced medicine. In that way his boyhood days were passed in toil and labor instead of in the schools. He was united in marriage, March 21, 1833, to Sarah J. Wright, born at upper Steniche, March 23, 1808. In 1835 he moved to Calais, Me., but after a few years there he returned to Nova Scotia. Always having a desire to live in the United States—his ancestors having been New Englanders—he emigrated in 1849 to southern Wisconsin, coming to Polk county in 1851 and settling on a homestead farm of 160 acres in Osceola Prairie, now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. George Taylor, the latter of whom married their youngest son, John. Upon this place Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey continued to live, raising a family of ten children. John S. Godfrey died August 8, 1888, and his wife passed away March 12, 1886. They joined the Baptist church in 1869 and continued in that fellowship until the time of their decease. Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey were true Christian people, still remembered by the old settlers for their good deeds, their elevating influence and noble example in building up this county in its early days. It is said of them that they fully exemplified the Bible adage, "Better a good name than great riches." Upon the anniversary of their wedding in 1883 they were surprised by about 100 of their friends and presented with a purse, a beautiful address of appreciation being delivered in commendation of their many rare and true qualities. Their devotion was the inspiration of the following tribute, which fully expresses the feeling of the entire community: "Among all our citizens none bore a better reputation than J. S. Godfrey and his noble wife. They were consistent members of the Baptist church at Osceola until the time of their deaths. One son, George, gave his life for his country in the Civil war. They exerted in this community an elevating influence, socially, morally and religiously, and few old settlers attained such honorable records as John S. Godfrey, his wife and his family. Their friends are legion and their enemies nameless." They were the parents of ten children: Mary, James, Elizabeth,

Charlotte, Arthur, George, Eunice, Sarah I., Pelina (died in infancy) and John P. Arthur and George were soldiers of the Civil war, George losing his life there.

**The Olson brothers,** Peter E. and Lewis, were born in Sweden, the former November 12, 1858, and the latter February 13, 1869. Their parents were Olof and Anna (Lloyd) Olson, natives of Sweden, Olof having been born September 16, 1823, and his wife June 20, 1833. They landed in New York, June 29, 1869, and located, July 14, 1869, in Osceola, Wis., where they bought 102 acres, broke and improved the land, erected a house and other buildings and carried on a general farming until 1890, when they retired. They are still living on the old homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Olof Olson are the parents of five children: Olof, born March 30, 1856, and married to Betsy Moody; Peter; Jonas, born February 6, 1862, married to Anna Erickson; Bertha, born July 21, 1864, married to Olof Floreen, and died June 20, 1906, and Lewis. After the father retired Peter E. and Lewis rented the homestead farm until 1896, when they purchased it. At that time it consisted of 222 acres. To this the brothers have added fifty more, making a large farm upon which they carry on general farming, raising small grains and vegetables and breeding stock, horses and fowls. Both the brothers are single. They were educated in the Godfrey school, now known as district No. 3, Osceola, and have always remained at home. Both are independent in politics. Lewis belongs to the Odd Fellows. Peter is now school treasurer of the district in which he was educated, and has served as a member of the side board. The brothers carry on farming in an up-to-date and scientific manner, and their farm is equipped with improved machinery and appliances. One of the features of their farm operations is the fact that they have both an open and a drilled well, furnishing abundant good water.

**Edward S. Solomonson** was born in Sweden, March 3, 1877, son of Solomon Johnson and Lisa Maria, natives of that country, who came to America in 1879 and settled in Osceola, Polk county, where they bought a farm of eighty acres, on which they continued to reside. Solomon Johnson was born March 17, 1835, and Lisa Maria, his wife, was born November 24, 1841. Unto them were born nine children: Andrew G., a mail carrier in Minneapolis, was born February 26, 1865, and married Emily Tofdahl, June 30, 1894; Charly, a millwright, born October 30, 1866, married Cal. Swan, of Cumberland, Wis., December 24, 1896; Frank, a farmer at Osceola, was born January 8, 1870, and married Amanda Elmquist, June 22, 1904. He became a widower in 1906. Ida was born March 11, 1872, and married Gust Petesson, a farmer of Osceola, in October, 1894; Axel F. was born September 3, 1874, and married Anna Flink, June 22, 1902; Edward

S. is the subject of this sketch; Sigrid was born December 26, 1878, and died October 27, 1880; Augusta was born October 28, 1881, and married Axel Johnson, an Osceola farmer, July 3, 1904. Nannie was born July 25, 1887, and now does general housework. Edward S. attended the public schools of Osceola township and then did various kinds of labor in the woods and saw mills and on farms until 1900, when he started work for the Osceola Mill & Elevator Company. June 1, 1906, together with O. N. Anderson he opened up a general store at Nye, Wis., where they have been very successful. They carry on general trade, handling mercantile products and hardware. Both proprietors are genial, honest men, and although they have been in business but a short time, have already established a record for integrity and stability. Mr. Solomonson is also the postmaster at the village of Nye and in this capacity has proved a very popular man. Aside from his store he owns eighty acres of land in Osceola township. He is a Republican in politics, but has never sought public office. He is a member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Solomonson was married, March 31, 1904, to Hilda Johnson, daughter of Gustaf and Lisa Johnson, the former born October 23, 1845, and the latter December 24, 1844, dying December 5, 1900. Mrs. Solomonson was born June 20, 1883, and had one sister, Huldah, born September 30, 1887. Mrs. Solomonson's parents were natives of Sweden and came to America and located in Osceola, where they became prominent farmers. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Edward S. Solomonson have been born four children: Earl A., born May 19, 1904; Myrna E., born September 8, 1905; Alice M., born September 5, 1906, and Herold E., born August 25, 1908.

**George A. Taylor** is a native of Pottsdam, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., born May 15, 1861, son of William and Jane (Purvis) Taylor, the former of whom was born in England, county of Yorkshire, December 27, 1822, and the latter in Scotland. Leaving his native country, the father emigrated to New York state, where he followed farming until 1864, when he removed to River Falls, this state, purchasing a farm, breaking and developing the land, carrying on a general line of farming until his death, in February, 1906, his wife passing away the same month. George A. received his education in the common schools and at the River Falls Normal School. He then took up farming in Spink county, South Dakota, taking up one-half section of government land, continuing for five years. Renting this farm, he returned to River Falls, took up farming and other vocations, traveling as far as the Pacific coast. In 1881 he came to Polk county and bought 160 acres at Farmington. After remaining there three years he located in Osceola township, purchasing 320 acres, 100 of which he broke and improved. He erected buildings

and has continued to carry on general farming. Being a great lover of horses, he now conducts a livery stable in Osceola village, and it is said that he has handled over 1,000 head of horses in the past seven years. Mr. Taylor was instrumental in installing the telephone service in Osceola, being the first president and manager of the Farmers' Mutual Telephone Company. He is a Republican in politics and was clerk of school district No. 3 for several years. He affiliates with the Modern Woodmen of America, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Rebekahs. George A. Taylor was married March 28, 1882, to Pearl Baird, daughter of Henry and Delia (French) Baird, pioneers of Perrin, this state. This union resulted in three children: Martha, born February 22, 1884, wife of Fred Bloom; Mabel, born December 2, 1886, wife of C. H. Cummings; Ray, born June 6, 1893. His second marriage was with Mrs. Minnie Godfrey, September 11, 1895. She was born February 22, 1860, at Somerset, this state. Her father and mother were natives of New York state, later residents of Osceola, the former dying March 21, 1889, and the latter in 1874. George A. and Minnie Taylor have three children: William M., born May 3, 1898; Purves C., born October 20, 1899, and Theodore, born July 6, 1903. By her marriage with John Godfrey, Mrs. Taylor had eight children: Sarah M., born October 21, 1877, wife of Arthur Miller; Clara E., born August 8, 1879, died January 20, 1888; Glenn E., born March 18, 1881, married Louis Remley, and died November 4, 1907; Nettie A., born March 28, 1883, married Herbert Stankey; Guy, born January 22, 1884, died February 11, 1884; Leon B., born December 17, 1885, died January 18, 1888; Dwight, born March 18, 1886, and John P., born January 2, 1888. In Mrs. Taylor's family there were eight brothers and sisters, as follows: Levina, Mary, Edward, William, Arville, Minnie, Rosetta and Ella. In Mr. Taylor's family there were ten brothers and sisters, as follows: William, an infant (deceased); Jeanette, Robert, John, Lewis, Fannie, George A., Wesley and Herbert.

**Edgar C. Treadwell,** now deceased, will long be held in honored memory by all who knew him. He was born in Susquehannah county, Pennsylvania, March 29, 1828, son of Allen and Stacian (Squires) Treadwell, natives of Connecticut, who moved to Pennsylvania, the mother passing away in Pennsylvania and the father dying at Osceola at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Peak, with whom he spent his declining years. Edgar C. received his education in the common schools of Pennsylvania and upon coming to this part of the country took up work as pilot on the St. Croix river. In the early fifties he bought a farm of eighty acres in Osceola township, which he broke and improved, carrying on general farming. In 1863 he enlisted in Company D, Second Wisconsin Cavalry, and was wounded at the battle of Yazoo. At the

close of the war in 1865 he returned to Osceola and again took up farming, which he followed until 1901, when he retired from the farm and took up his residence in the village, living there until his death, May 17, 1907. His widow now makes her home with her niece, Mrs. Emma Johnson, on the old Judge Hale homestead. Mr. Treadwell was a Democrat in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. His public offices included sheriff of Polk county, assessor, school clerk and director. He affiliated with the Masonic fraternity. A hard working, honest man, Mr. Treadwell was a good neighbor, a faithful husband, a loving father, a loyal comrade and a staunch friend of education. Mr. Treadwell was married, March 14, 1867, at New Richmond, Wis., by the Rev. Cyrus Liscomb, of the Methodist Episcopal church, to Esther Hale, daughter of Judge I. W. and Nancy (McKune) Hale, natives of Pennsylvania, later of Osceola. Mr. and Mrs. Treadwell had two children: Edgar C., born February 12, 1868, and died August 3, 1868, and Elbert F., born December 25, 1871, married to Esther Kennedy, of Farmington, this county, and now a resident of Spaulding, Ida. Elbert Treadwell has seven children: Edgar C., John, Myrtle, Ruby, Benjamin, Mabel and Richard. Judge Isaac W. Hale was the father of seven children, as follows: John married Maria Prentice; Esther, born in Pennsylvania, June 5, 1828, is now Mrs. Treadwell; Malvina married William Wallace; Isaac married Elizabeth Cory; Achsah married Thomas Kent; Fowler married Levina Maxwell; Ruben W. married May Maxwell. All are honored residents of their respective communities.

**Richard A. Turnbull** was born in Canada, March 17, 1832, son of Thomas and Ellen Turnbull, natives of Scotland and England. They came to America in 1800, locating in Connecticut, where the father followed his trade as weaver until 1812, when he went to Canada and farmed until 1815, afterward buying a farm at Emmingfield, Conn., on the New York state line. He died December 28, 1849, his wife passing away ten years later, March 14, in Osceola, Wis., where she was making her home with her son. Richard A. received his education in the common schools of Canada and worked with his father until the latter's death, also continuing farming until 1853 and coming to St. Croix Falls, Wis., the following year. In 1856 he bought 240 acres of land in the township of Osceola, Wis., the place being covered with timber. He cleared the farm, broke the land, erected buildings and has since continued to carry on general farming with much success, raising small grains and stock. In 1862 he enlisted in the Union army, being mustered in at La Crosse, Wis., in January, 1863, serving in Company F, Seventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He served with much credit and was mustered out at Baltimore, Md., in June, 1865, at the close of the war. His engagements in-

cluded the battle of the Wilderness and many other bloody battles. He was married, November 14, 1854, to Dora, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Napper, natives of Ireland, who later emigrated to Canada. This union resulted in seven children: Thomas, born September 13, 1855; James, born October 17, 1857; George, born February 5, 1862; Charles, born in November, 1865, married to Elexes McKinzie; Nellie, born in 1868, married to J. A. Wash; Minnie, married to William Beggs, and Jessie, married to Frank Nelson. Mrs. Turnbull died June 23, 1907. Mr. Turnbull is a Republican in politics and a worshiper at the Presbyterian church. He has served as roadmaster and as a member of the school board, being also a member of McKinzie G. A. R. Post, of St. Croix Falls.

## CHAPTER LIII.

## POLK COUNTY.

**St. Croix Falls Village—Dreams of the Early Settlers—Suits Over the Water Power—Early History—Interstate Park—Modern Progress—Hopes for the Future—St. Croix Falls Township—Centuria Village—Sterling Township—Frederic Village—West Sweden Township—First Settlers—Crops, Live Stock, Acreage and Wealth.**

The early history of St. Croix Falls village is identical with the early history of the county, which has previously been related, and also has much in common with the early history of Taylors Falls, which appears later in this work. Being one of the oldest of Wisconsin's towns, it possesses natural advantages which, fully developed and utilized, should make it one of the prosperous cities in northwestern Wisconsin. Conservative estimates place the force of the waters at the Falls fully developed at 50,000 horsepower, a power sufficient to turn the wheels in a hundred factories and shops, and give employment to thousands and sustain a large city. St. Croix Falls dates its beginning back to 1841, when a saw mill was erected, and began sawing lumber the next season. In 1858, upon the organization of the county, it was made the county seat, but this was soon after removed to Osceola. Its growth has been slow, but solid. Its business men are conservative and prosperous. The principal manufacturing industries are a large flouring mill, two planing mills and a hardwood saw mill. Transportation facilities are furnished by the "Soo" railroad. All the usual business enterprises, professions and trades are represented in full. There is one of the best public schools in the state, churches of the Methodist and Presbyterian denominations, while the several societies represented are the Masons, Woodmen, Encampment of Odd Fellows and their kindred societies. There are local and long distance telephone systems and electric light. The town is so located as to have perfect natural drainage into the river, while the water supply is furnished by natural springs bubbling from the hillside. No more healthful nor beautiful spot could be chosen for a home. Besides the magnificent Interstate park, heretofore mentioned, but a short distance back are found beautiful lakes and streams, abounding in game fish, while game is found in abundance close by. The village was laid out and

platted July 31, 1857. The first mill was completed in 1840, Joseph Bowron superintendent. William S. Hungerford made the first entry of land, August 17, 1838. From that date the property was continually in dispute. Injunctions were in the air for many years, first on one side and then on the other, and the matter was never wholly settled until the death of both parties. In 1856, however, a partial compromise was effected by the formation of the St. Croix Manufacturing & Improvement Company. The Cushing house was completed, a flouring mill and a warehouse erected at the landing. The mill was run until 1863, when W. H. C. Folsom leased it for a term of years, but in 1864 the lease was transferred to D. F. Smith. Then litigation commenced again and continued through many tedious years.

A strong effort is being made by the people of Taylors Falls and St. Croix Falls to induce capitalists to locate here, and the leading men of the two localities have joined in the publication of a circular, handsomely illustrated, setting forth the inducements and great advantages available to those wishing to engage in manufacturing of any kind. This circular so clearly describes the conditions and so forcibly illustrates the advantages that a part is copied below:

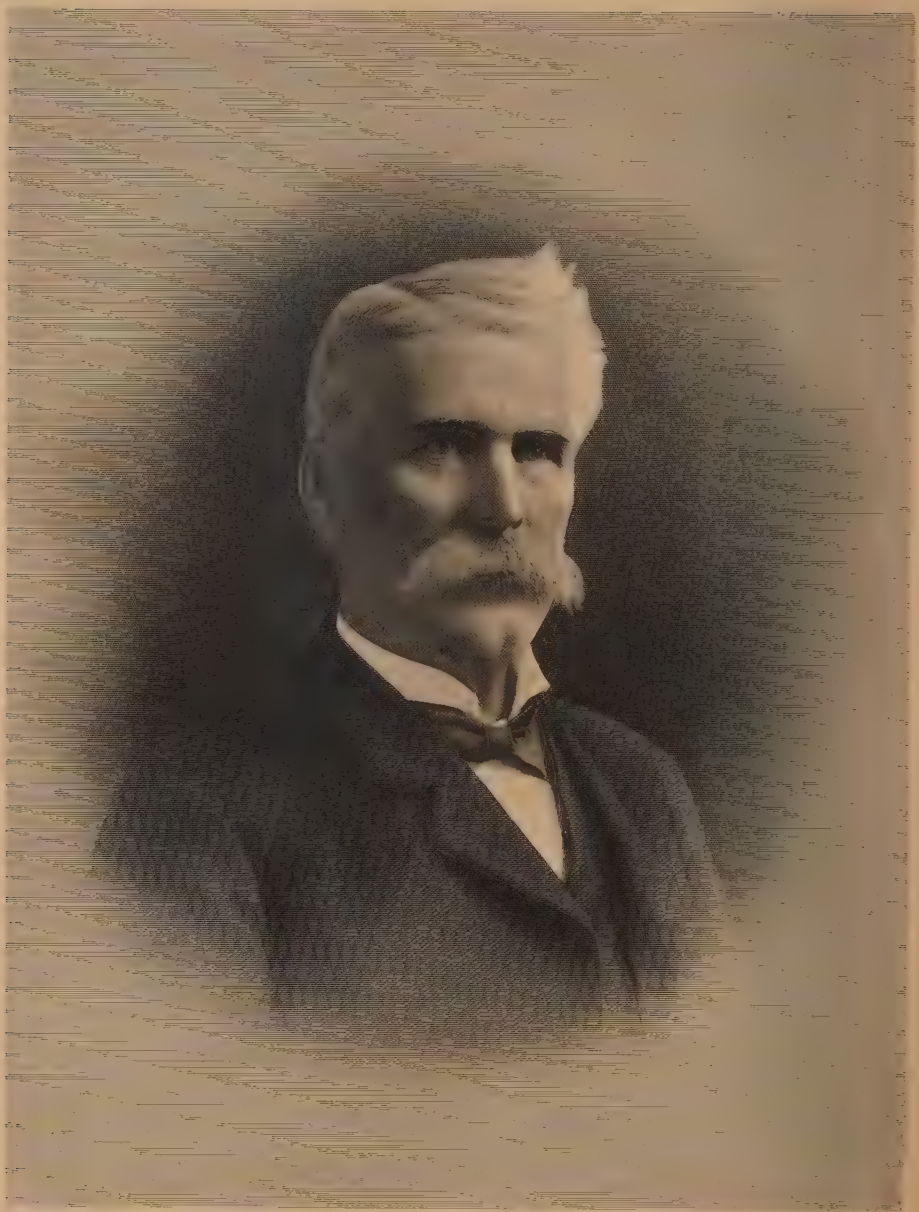
"The first settlement of St. Croix and Taylors Falls was made in 1837 by men who afterwards became famous in the history of Minnesota and Wisconsin, and who were induced to settle there on account of the great water power. The first business was that of logging, markets being found for pine logs at various points on the Mississippi river. A company was organized and an attempt made to construct a dam and a saw mill. Ten years later another dam was built, and soon afterwards the property was tied up in litigation, remaining in this condition nearly fifty years. But in these later years a company has been formed with sufficient capital to build a magnificent hydro-electric plant, comprising a dam 55 feet thick at its base, 6 feet thick at the top, 55 feet high and 740 feet in length; a large power house, a dyke half a mile long, all constructed of solid and reinforced concrete, and having a capacity of 27,000 horsepower, a large part of which is transmitted to Minneapolis, forty miles distant. Work was commenced on this dam early in 1905; cost, about $3,500,000."

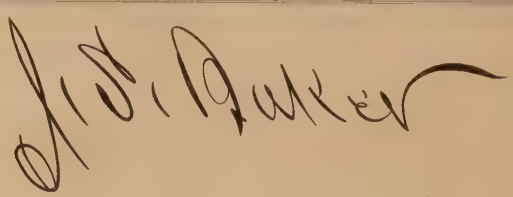
"It is now proposed," says the circular, "to establish manufacturing enterprises on the banks of the St. Croix adjacent to the power plant as fast as capital can be interested. This valley and the surrounding territory have direct railway connections via two great transcontinental routes, and with but little more than ordinary switching charges, connection is made with the twenty-three great systems of the Twin Cities. Another advantage to the manufacturer is that the river is navigable and provides an

easy system of water transportation by the way of the Mississippi river.

"Situated, as they are, on directly opposite banks of the St. Croix river, so nearly alike in location, topography of surrounding country, character of people and occupations, St. Croix Falls and Taylors Falls may be treated to all intents and purposes as a single proposition. In the two villages the shipping facilities, rates of taxation, public improvements, telephone and telegraph service, churches, schools and scenery are nearly identical. The public improvements consist of those usually found in villages of this size, and in addition should be mentioned a complete system of water works and reservoir, which supply an unlimited amount of the best water; also a first-class volunteer fire department with plenty of equipment, and a complete installation of electric lights supplied from the new power station. Local and long-distance telephone service connects the villages with all parts of the country, and two companies provide ample telegraphic communication. There are free high schools on the accredited list of the State University and well organized graded school systems. There is also a county normal training school for teachers with its separate building. The churches consist of a Methodist, a Presbyterian and a Swedish Lutheran, each having a fine building and a strong membership."

The Interstate park is a veritable paradise of nature's handiwork, owned jointly by Wisconsin and Minnesota, Wisconsin's 600 acres lying east and Minnesota's 300 lying west of the St. Croix river, the village of St. Croix Falls situated at the very threshold of the park. Through the efforts of Park Commissioner George H. Hazzard, of Minnesota, the attention of the legislatures of the two states was called to this spot in 1895, and they have since worked together for the upbuilding and permanency of an interstate park there. At this point the St. Croix river has a fall of sixty-one feet in a distance of five miles. Down this incline its mass of water rushes with tremendous force, creating one of the grandest water scenes to be found upon the American continent. On the Minnesota side the bluffs rise to a height of 1,120 feet, and on the Wisconsin side over 1,400 feet. Steamboats traverse the St. Croix river to the foot of the rapids, at which point the water is 703 feet above sea level. It is clearly apparent that the mighty forces of nature exercised their efforts in cleaving asunder the vast body of rock, and surging floods of the St. Croix have wrought wonders in the rocks during the ages. At one point in a radius of about three acres are over 100 "pot holes," or "kettles," worn in the rock. Ordinarily they range from six inches to many feet across and from a foot to unknown depths. One some 15 feet across having been explored to a depth of 65 feet, and one





10 feet across has been sounded to a depth of 84 feet. These holes are supposed to have been worn in the rock by the action of water carrying loose rocks around in its terrific force, grinding away the solid rock. In the summer of 1900 students of the Minnesota University visited the Minnesota part of the park and found over 1,000 varieties of native plants growing there. The plant and timber features in and about the Dalles are said to be the most varied of any one place known. The moss-covered rocks and logs are likened unto beautiful mats, so varied are their colors. All the different vines of northern climes are found here. The "Glacier Gardens" are among her most noted features—the footprints in the rocks and the many pot holes or wells. State money appropriated for the park is only used for paying for the land and making accessible the natural beauties of the spot. Artificial beautifying is deemed quite unnecessary.

The Bank of St. Croix Falls was incorporated May 22, 1888, as a state bank with a capital stock of $25,000, and of this $15,000 was paid in. The bank opened for business June 11, 1888, with William J. Vincent, president; John W. Perley, vice-president, and F. L. Olcott, cashier. Fred Olcott was appointed assistant cashier, August 6, 1888, and cashier January 7, 1889. Upon the death of William J. Vincent, in 1891, John W. Perley was elected president of the bank and Thomas H. Thompson vice-president. On September 10, 1900, Thomas H. Thompson was elected president, and A. Isaacson and George H. Thompson vice-presidents. In 1894 W. C. Thompson was elected assistant cashier. The present officers are: Thomas H. Thompson, president; A. Isaacson and George H. Thompson, vice-presidents; Fred Olcott, cashier, and W. C. Thompson, assistant cashier. The officers constitute the board of directors. On July 11, 1906, the capital was increased to $50,000, all paid in, with deposits of over $300,000, making it the bank with the largest capital and deposits, as well as the oldest bank in business in Polk county. It will thus be seen that the institution is an important one, and its stability has had much to do with the upbuilding of the business interests of the village.

**Major J. Stannard Baker,** of St. Croix Falls, belongs to a type of man now unfortunately disappearing from our American life; the type of the soldier, the pioneer, the unbending individualist. For thirty-five years he has been a resident of the St. Croix valley. His sturdy figure, carrying its years with the military erectness and vitality of youth, his snow-white hair, his alert step, not less than his unusual vigor of character and intellect, have long made him a notable figure in the life of his community.

Major Baker was born on a farm in Stafford, Genesee county, N. Y., on March 20, 1838. He came from sturdy Puritan stock.

His great-grandfather was Captain Remember Baker, one of the leaders with Ethan Allen and Seth Warner of the Green Mountain Boys, whose exploits in the early days of the Revolutionary War, in one of which Captain Baker lost his life, are among the notable episodes of that great struggle for freedom. Major Baker's grandfather was an officer in the United States army, serving under General Wayne in his western expedition. His father, who was also a soldier, serving in the war of 1812, migrated from Vermont in the early days of the last century and settled in what was then the untracked wilderness of western New York. He was a man of extraordinary character and convictions, a leader of his community, playing a vigorous part in the great questions which then agitated the country. He was a staunch abolitionist, a member of the anti-Masonic party, at one time sheltering in his home the family of the Morgan who lost his life for revealing the secrets of Masonry, and a temperance reformer when it meant ostracism and persecution to take a position against the power of the liquor interests.

Up to the age of sixteen Major Baker spent his summers at work on the farm, and in the winter he attended school, part of the time at Brockport institute, New York, where his older sisters were teaching. His ambition was to obtain a thorough education, and at the age of seventeen he left home, and by teaching school and doing other sorts of work he was able to enter Oberlin college, in Ohio.

Infected with the western fever, it being the time of the "Pike's Peak or Bust" excitement, Major Baker started west in 1859, with his older brother, H. C. Baker. They went to the end of the railroad and took passage in a steamboat up the Mississippi river to St. Paul, then a straggling frontier village. The country was still under the baleful influence of the panic of 1857. After a struggle of many weeks trying to get work when there was no work to be had, Major Baker went to Hudson, Wisconsin, where his brother had begun the practice of law. Here, luckily, he found work during harvest, running a threshing machine on what was then known as Hudson prairie. In the winter he taught school near River Falls, having among his pupils John E. Glover, now of New Richmond; Wellington Vanatta, a leading attorney of St. Paul, and George Burrows, since then an officer in the United States navy. With the money saved from his work he was able in 1860 to enter Wisconsin university. Senator John C. Spooner, Senator Vilas, and John Muir, the famous naturalist, were fellow-students.

But he was not destined to complete his course. In 1861 came the news of the outbreak of the Civil War. The students went wild, recitations were abandoned, a military company, of

which every member wanted to be an officer, was organized. But Major Baker finished the school year, after which he went to Iowa, where he had built up an extensive book and map business, employing twenty men, during his vacations at the university. Eager now to enlist and go to the front, he rapidly closed up his work and was on the point of joining the Sixth Iowa Cavalry when he received an appointment along with his brother Byron, in the United States secret service, of which General L. C. Baker, a cousin, was then chief. After a brief visit at the old home in western New York he reported at Washington and began his new duties in 1862. His work in the secret service called for high qualities of courage, skill and judgment. He was often employed on delicate secret missions for Edwin M. Stanton, secretary of war, and his work brought him more than once into personal relationships with President Lincoln. He was sent repeatedly on dangerous missions inside of the Confederate lines in Virginia, in all of which he acquitted himself with notable success. In such high regard was he held that when the First District of Columbia Cavalry was organized he was offered and accepted the appointment as ranking captain of the regiment. He soon rose to be major and for a greater part of the last two years of the war, owing to the absence of the colonel, L. C. Baker, who was chief of the secret service, and Lieutenant Colonel Conger, who was on detached service, Major Baker was in active command of the regiment.

The First District of Columbia Cavalry was composed largely of regular army men, and was armed with the then new and famous Henry repeating rifles—the only entire regiment so armed. While originally intended to serve only as an auxiliary to the United States secret service bureau, the First District of Columbia Cavalry was soon ordered to the front, and being composed of trained soldiers, mounted and armed in a superior way, much more was expected and demanded of it than of the ordinary cavalry regiment. Previous to July, 1863, it was engaged in scouting, raiding and fighting the guerilla bands then infesting northern Virginia, and just before the battle of Gettysburg it was ordered to upper Maryland to hang upon the enemy's rear and cut their lines of communication. The regiment took part in the battle of Boonesborough July 8, 1863, and from that time until it was ordered to the front, the following fall, it was on duty in and about Washington, lower Maryland and northern Virginia.

During the winter of 1863 and 1864 the regiment was on duty in southern Virginia near Norfolk and Suffolk, and along the great Dismal Swamp canal. In the spring of 1864 it became a part of General Kautz's cavalry division and took part in all the

raids, battles and affairs in southern Virginia and about Petersburg and Richmond during the strenuous campaign of that summer. In June and July it took a prominent part in the Wilson raid, one of the most notable and daring of the war. Roanoke Station, Reams Station, Stony Creek, Nottaway River, were only a few of the hard-fought battles of this raid in which Major Baker commanded his regiment and lost many of his best officers and men.

On August 24 and 25, when General Hancock's corps was driven back so disastrously from Reams Station, it was this regiment, commanded by Major Baker, which held the enemy in check during the afternoon and night of the 25th, thus saving Hancock's corps from complete annihilation and giving it time to reorganize.

In September Major Baker was placed in command of a picket line many miles in length, extending along the rear of Grant's army, then investing Petersburg, with a reserve of about 200 men at Sycamore Church, Va. At this point, during the night of the 16th he was attacked by a force of the enemy, consisting of Lee's, Rosser's and Butler's divisions, commanded by General Wade Hampton, with six pieces of artillery, consisting in the aggregate of over 20,000 men. It was here, in a fiercely fought night battle of two hours' duration and against these overwhelming numbers, that Major Baker, while making a last determined stand with his few remaining men about him, received a saber wound on the head and was left for dead. Early in the morning he was aroused by the sensation of someone trying to pull off his boots. When he stirred, he heard a voice say:

"He is alive; bring him along."

He was thus taken prisoner. Sorely wounded and covered with blood, he could not walk, but was placed on a wounded horse and when he could no longer ride, he was carried by some of his own faithful men, who had also been captured. During the first day of his captivity a Confederate soldier, seeing the fine pair of cavalry boots he wore, forcibly took them. Major Baker demanded to see the Confederate officer who was in command, and upon being carried to General Wade Hampton's tent, demanded the return of his boots—and got them. Years afterwards, when General Hampton became United States land commissioner, Major Baker wrote to him asking him if he remembered the federal officer who was brought to him on a stretcher after the battle of Sycamore Church, and who demanded the return of his boots. To this General Hampton replied that he remembered perfectly, and complimented him on the vigorous defense he made against such overwhelming odds.

Major Baker, after suffering greatly on this march, was taken

to Libby prison at Richmond, where for five months he lay a prisoner. Reaching the prison desperately wounded, given no care, he was compelled to sleep on the floor in a wholly unwarmed building during nearly all of the terrible winter of 1864-65. If he had not been possessed of an iron constitution, undaunted courage and a profound religious faith, he never would have survived. But his motto all through life has been: "Admit nothing to be a hardship." And though he was finally exchanged, coming out broken in health, he was still undaunted. After a few weeks' rest at his old home in New York he again went to the front, took command of his regiment and served in all the battles of that campaign, fired the last shots on the field of Appomattox and saw the surrender.

His older brother, Luther Byron Baker, who had served as a lieutenant and quartermaster of the First District of Columbia Cavalry, was the officer who, in command of a detachment of cavalry and secret service men, pursued and captured John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of President Lincoln.

After the war Major Baker was offered a commission in the regular army, but owing to the state of his health, he decided to resign. After the war General L. C. Baker had gone to the new capital of Michigan; the town of Lansing. Here Major Baker and his brother, Lieutenant Baker, followed him, each taking with him his cavalry horse. Many of the old residents of Lansing still remember seeing the gallant figures of the two young officers riding their horses.

Like many another soldier, Major Baker found that he had left the army with a good knowledge of military art, but with no preparation for civil life. At first he returned to Wisconsin university, thinking he would complete his course there and graduate, which he could have done in a few months' time. But he found himself a man grown, experienced beyond most in the sternest realities of life, and he turned away from the swarming younger students with discouragement. Having saved considerable money from his service pay, he went into the iron manufacturing business at Lansing with his cousin, M. S. Baker. But this enterprise, and a number of others which he attempted, owing to lack of training and continued ill health, the result of his war services, were not very successful. In 1874 he suffered a violent attack of pneumonia, from which he recovered with difficulty. This, combined with the fact that he now had a wife and three small children to support, and that he was conscious of a growing deafness, the result of the wound on his head, left him in deep discouragement.

At this juncture, his brother, H. C. Baker, appeared. H. C. Baker was then prosperously engaged with Senator John C.

Spooner, the firm name being Baker & Spooner, in the practice of law at Hudson, Wis. He took Major Baker with him to Hudson, where, after a few weeks of complete rest, he recovered enough to go to St. Croix Falls, which was to be his future home. He arrived on August 31, 1874, and at once took up his work as resident agent for the large land holdings in northern Wisconsin of Caleb Cushing and General Benjamin F. Butler and of the corporation controlling the great water power and town plat of St. Croix at St. Croix Falls, Wis. He brought his family from Michigan in the spring of 1875. Since then he has been steadily and prosperously engaged in the land business, operating in four counties in northern Wisconsin. A few years ago the business was incorporated under the name, Cushing Land Agency, with Major Baker's son, H. D. Baker, as active manager.

Major Baker was married in 1868 to Alice Potter, whose family were of New England descent, a great-grandfather being the famous Ezra Stiles, first president of Yale college. They had six sons: Ray Stannard Baker, now author and editor, of New York city; Professor Charles Fuller Baker, of Claremont college, California, whose scientific studies in the botany and entomology of Central and South America and of the Rocky Mountains, have been noteworthy; Henry Denio Baker, who is manager of the business at St. Croix Falls; Clarence Dwight Baker, who died in 1906, at the beginning of a useful career; Professor Hugh Potter Baker, of State college, Pennsylvania, and Professor James Fred Baker, of the Agricultural college, Michigan.

Major Baker's first wife died in 1883, and he was married a second time, in 1886, to Mary L. Brown, of New Richmond, Wis. They have four children: Winifred Lovila Baker, a student in Carleton college; Florence Baker, Joseph Stannard Baker, Jr., and Oscar Roland Baker, who are still at home.

Owing to his deafness, which in later years has become extreme, Major Baker has never taken any part in public affairs, though he has been deeply interested in church work, being one of the founders and supporters of the Presbyterian church at St. Croix Falls. A thorough student, he has kept abreast through his library with the best thought of the world, his interest in new things being as vivid as that of a young man. He has interested himself in forestry, and is conducting an extensive experimental planting near his home. Surrounded by his young family, with the older sons often coming home with their wives and children, spending his winters at his home in St. Croix Falls, and his summers at his place on Deer Lake, Major Baker's old age is one of unusual brightness and contentment. Having passed through years of storm and stress, the adventures and sufferings of the soldier at the front, the months of painful

captivity, the years of struggle for a chance in the greater activities of the world, Major Baker now enjoys the health, the happiness, and the prosperity which comes of a well spent and arduous life.

**Frank B. Dorothy** first saw the light of day in St. Lawrence county, October 27, 1845, son of Joseph H. and Charlotte (Gates) Dorothy, the former of whom died in New York state August 31, 1875, and the latter of whom passed away January 10, 1899, after having spent the last twenty years of her life with the subject of this sketch. Frank B. attended the common schools and the St. Lawrence academy of St. Lawrence county and then studied in a law office. In 1876 he came westward and located at Taylors Falls, Minn., until August, 1887, when on the 25th day of that month he came to St. Croix Falls, having been admitted to the Minnesota bar ten years previous. Since coming to St. Croix Falls he has carried on the practice of his profession, both pleading and consulting. Before the bar he is an able advocate and in his office his judgment upon matters pertaining to the affairs of his clients is always sure to be just and sound. His library is said to be the best in Polk county, containing more than 500 volumes. A son of the American Revolution, he has himself an honorable record in the service of his native land. He enlisted in 1863 in Company A, One Hundred and Sixth New York Volunteer Infantry, serving in the Army of the Potomac, Sixth Army Corps. He was wounded at Monocacy Junction, near Frederick City, Md., in the Shenandoah valley, July 9, 1864, but served until the close of the war, being discharged at Annapolis, Md., July 28, 1865. Aside from his pretty residence in St. Croix Falls, he owns real estate located in Polk county and 240 acres of land in Aitkin county, Minn. His success has been due to his own hard work and unswerving honesty. A Republican in politics, he has served in various village offices. In fraternal affiliations he is a Mason. The subject of this sketch was married, August 31, 1870, to Julia L. Murdock, daughter of Dr. Thaddeus and Lucinda (Allen) Murdock, natives of St. Lawrence county, New York. The father died at Taylors Falls, Minn., while on a visit, and the mother at the old home in New York prior to his death. Mr. and Mrs. Dorothy have three living children: Sidney Judson, with the Minneapolis Electric Motor Company, of Minneapolis, Minn.; Julia Mabel, who, after graduating from the Normal School at St. Croix Falls and the State University, is now a teacher at Osceola, Wis., and Leora Agnes, who is still attending school. The deceased children are Blanche, Hope, Thaddeus, Nina and Albert.

**Charles C. Fisk** was born in Levant, Penobscot county, Me., October 26, 1826, son of Nathan S. and Phœbe B. (Holt) Fisk,

the former born in Hillsboro, N. H., in 1791, and the latter in Bluehills, Me. The father in early life was a shoemaker in Bangor, Me., afterward settling in Levant, in the same state, where he bought 120 acres of land, which he broke and improved. With two others he built the first church erected in Levant. In 1860 he came to St. Croix Falls, Wis., and made his home with the subject of this sketch until his death in 1891, his wife having died in the month of November, 1860. Charles C. received his education in his native town and after leaving school taught penmanship at the academy at Frederick, N. B., for two winters. He then worked on the farm at Levant until 1854, when he located in Taylors Falls, Minn., teaching and logging two years. Upon coming to St. Croix Falls he acted as lumberman and cook for the St. Croix Lumber Company, often cooking for as many as seventy-five men. In 1857 he bought a lot in the village and built a home three stories high. In 1863 he engaged in the hotel and livery business, which he still conducts, being the oldest hotel man in the state. His hotel was destroyed by fire, a disaster which would discourage many men, but he rebuilt and continued business. The house is called the St. Croix hotel, and the property is all owned by Mr. Fisk. It faces the street on three different sides and is a very fine piece of real estate, indeed. Mr. Fisk is a Republican in politics. He has been treasurer and member of the school board, clerk of the village, supervisor of the township, deputy sheriff and deputy constable. He attends both the Baptist and the Presbyterian churches. Mr. Fisk is an ideal hotel man, runs a first-class place in a business-like manner and is a great favorite with the traveling fraternity as well as with summer guests. He was married, January 13, 1858, to Cordelia Emery, daughter of Samuel and Roselle Emery, natives of New England, who emigrated to St. Croix Falls, Wis., in 1856. The father occupied a number of public positions of trust and honor and passed away in 1892. The mother is also deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Fisk have been blessed with seven children: Frances is the wife of A. H. French; Rosa is the wife of W. E. Dockstader; Charles H. married Clara Arnquist; Eve married E. P. Howard, and the next child is Lillian F.; Nellie J. is at home, and Harry, born July 3, 1882, assists his father in the hotel business, acting as clerk in the hotel.

**W. H. McCourt** is a native of Clinton county, New York, born September 16, 1849, son of James and Margaret McCourt. The father followed farming for the greater part of his life, but in his later days manufactured starch. He came to Polk county in 1860 and located in Garfield township, or at least in what is now Garfield township, that being before the present town was platted. In those days the locality abounded in wild game and

there were very few white men. He took up 160 acres, made a clearing and gradually developed the land, the homestead farm being the one which a brother of our subject now occupies. James McCourt passed away in 1899 and his wife, Margaret, died in 1893. W. H. was educated at Taylors Falls and has a practical knowledge of surveying. In 1870 he went to Minnesota and surveyed timber, also doing other government work, continuing until 1888, when he returned to Polk county, still looking up land and surveying, doing railroad surveying in addition. At the present time he is still engaged in doing more or less work of a like nature. He has served eight years as county surveyor and has just been nominated for two years more. Mr. McCourt owns land at St. Croix Falls, in which village he has lived for several years past. He is interested in some mineral lands in the Iron Range in northern Minnesota, a part of his surveying duties having consisted of inspecting mineral lands. The subject of this sketch was married in 1883 to Mary E. McKinney, daughter of Windom and Martha E. (Stone) McKinney, natives of Maine, who came to Minneapolis, Minn., in the early days. Mr. and Mrs. McCourt have one daughter, Edith, a young woman of considerable musical talent. The Republican platform embodies Mr. McCourt's political belief, and the Masonic order constitutes his fraternal affiliation.

**James William Mullen,** son of John and Margaret Mullen, was born in Nova Scotia, January 30, 1827. When he was quite young his parents moved to Providence, R. I.; afterwards came west and located at Davenport, Iowa, about 1843. He was married to Margaret Riley, daughter of Michael and Rosanna McDermott Riley, August 30, 1854. Michael Riley was born in Ireland and immigrated to New York state, married in Troy, N. Y., and moved to Davenport, Iowa, in 1832, where he preempted a farm, on a part of which the city of Davenport is now located. On this farm Michael Riley died. His wife died at Taylors Falls, Minn. Early in life J. W. Mullen engaged in steamboating on the Mississippi and came up the St. Croix river on one of the first steamboats arriving in this section of the country in 1849. Of the early days and of his own journeys he wrote many interesting sketches, some of which, together with his diary, are still in possession of the family. He followed steamboating for many years, and was well known up and down the St. Croix and Mississippi rivers. For about thirty years he resided at Taylors Falls, Minn., where he was engaged in the hotel and merchantile business. He moved to St. Croix Falls, Wis., in 1885, and built the Vincent House, of which he was proprietor for about fifteen years. He also engaged in the lumber business during this time. He retired from active busi-

ness in the fall of 1899 and died January 24, 1908, and was laid to rest in Kabbakong cemetery at Taylors Falls, Minn. He was survived by his widow and three sons. Mr. Mullen belonged to the Masons for about forty years. The family religion of the Mullens was that of the Catholic church. Mr. Mullen's family consisted of four children: Mary, who died at the age of sixteen, and William H., Edward E. and Charles E. Mullen. C. E. Mullen was associated with his father in business from the time he moved to St. Croix Falls, Wis., and built the Vincent House, which is still owned by the family although rented. C. E. Mullen still continues the lumbering business and owns and runs a sawmill at Frederic, Wis., where he also owns other property. His home is at St. Croix Falls, Wis. He was married to Eva Rogers, daughter of Joseph and Amanda Churchill Rogers, who are pioneer settlers of St. Croix Falls. Mr. Rogers came to St. Croix Falls from Maine in 1856 and his wife from New York state in 1854. Mr. Rogers was engaged in the lumber business for about thirty years and then engaged in farming at Balsam Lake, Wis., for a number of years, after which he retired from farming and is now living at Balsam Lake village. William H. Mullen was married to Bertha Nolin in 1890 and lives at St. Croix Falls, Wis. Edward E. Mullen was married to Mary Payne in 1881, and to them were born seven children, six of whom are living. The mother died at Frederic, Wis., in 1905. E. E. Mullen now lives at Boville, Idaho, where he is engaged in lumbering.

**Joel Foster Nason,** son of Hiram and Sarah Nason, was born August 31, 1827, in Crawford, Washington county, Me. He was educated in the common schools and at Munson Academy. He taught school one year and then came to St. Croix Falls, Wis., in April, 1850. He was married, July, 1851, to Bethiah, daughter of Henry and Louisa Hanscom, who died December 28, 1862, leaving five children: Everett, Hurley, Fred, Louise and Bethiah. Mr. Nason was engaged in lumbering and farming until 1864, when he was elected county clerk of Polk county, Wisconsin. He was married to Mary A., daughter of John S. and Sarah Godfrey, October 31, 1867, who died March 25, 1885, leaving one child, Judd Nason. Mr. Nason resigned the office of county clerk in May, 1871, when he was appointed receiver of the United States Land Office at St. Croix Falls, Wis., which office he held until 1885, when he resigned and was elected state senator for four years. He was married in April, 1887, to Fanny A., daughter of Michael and Ann Reynolds Field. In 1890 he opened a hardware store at St. Croix Falls, Wis., which he sold in 1897 and retired from active business life. Mr. Nason died December 3, 1908.

**Fred Olcott** was born in Fond du Lac, Wis., son of Leslie Q. Olcott, now cashier of the bank at Amery, Wis., and of whom a

sketch will be found in this history. Young Fred received his education in the public schools, lived with his family in Fond du Lac and Cumberland, Wis., until 1888, then became cashier of the Bank of St. Croix Falls, which position he still occupies. He owns a pleasant home in Adams street in St. Croix Falls village. Although still comparatively a young man, he has made a place for himself in the business and social life of the community. He has served as village trustee, school clerk and treasurer, is a commissioner of the Wisconsin Interstate park and secretary of the St. Croix Telephone Exchange Company, of St. Croix Falls. He affiliates with the Odd Fellows and the Masons. Mr. Olcott was married June 14, 1892, to Nellie Thompson, daughter of Thomas H. and Eliza Thompson, the former of whom is a retired merchant, president of the Bank of St. Croix Falls and of the St. Croix Telephone Company, of St. Croix Falls. This union has been blessed with two children: Lyle, born October 28, 1894, and Florence, born December 4, 1906.

**Thomas H. Peck** is now living a retired life in his beautiful residence in St. Croix Falls after a busy life of successful accomplishment in which he has combined the occupations of carpenter and farmer. He is also a veteran of the Civil war, having served with honor and valor in that great conflict. In civil life he has served his fellow citizens no less well, and his periods of office holding have won for him wide praise. He has not, however, been an office seeker, neither has he sought for praise, choosing rather to go about his work quietly, doing his duty as he sees it without fear or favor. To his sons he has handed down an honored and unsullied name and an unblemished reputation. Mr. Peck was born in London, England, January 10, 1839, son of William H. and Mary (Madison) Peck, natives of England and Scotland, respectively. He received his education in London and after school took up carpenter work with his father, learning the trade. Upon coming to America in 1854 he followed that trade with his father at St. Louis and St. Paul. From 1865 to 1872 he worked at his trade at different places in Wisconsin and Minnesota, always claiming St. Croix Falls his home. In 1872 he purchased eighty acres of farm land in section 6, township 34, range 18, town of St. Croix Falls, hired a man to run the place and still continued carpentering. In 1885, after selling the farm, he bought two well situated lots in St. Croix Falls and erected a fine residence, where he lived, following his trade until 1906, when, his health failing, he retired from active labor. September 29, 1864, he enlisted in Company A, First Minnesota Heavy Artillery. He saw considerable active service, but for the greater part of the time acted as company clerk. He was discharged at Chattanooga, Tenn., June 20, 1865, after which he

returned to his trade at St. Croix Falls. Mr. Peck was married, July 14, 1871, at Taylors Falls, Minn., to Cecelia C. Thomson, daughter of Charles H. and Susana (Mowry) Thomson, natives of Pennsylvania, who located in Osceola, Wis., in 1855, where the father followed his trade as carpenter. The father died May 8, 1861, and the mother died July 11, 1892. To this union three sons were born: William H. was born February 4, 1878, and died January 27, 1879; Thomas C. was born January 29, 1881, and married Zelma C. Lindmark. He now lives in South St. Paul, where he is an architectural draftsman. John C., born December 10, 1884, lives at home and is studying to be an architectural engineer. The family religion is that of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Peck is a Republican in politics. He is now serving his third term as village treasurer. He is also justice of the peace and has served as town clerk and town assessor. He belongs to St. Croix Lodge, No. 275, A. F. & A. M., and to McKinzie Post, No. 101, G. A. R., of St. Croix Falls. William H. Peck, father of Thomas H., was a contractor and builder, which occupation he followed until coming to this country in 1854. He located in Taylors Falls in 1854, continuing his trade, coming to St. Croix township in 1858. He purchased a farm of eighty acres in section 6, township 34, range 18, St. Croix Falls, which he broke and improved, residing thereon until 1867, when he moved to Grantsburg, Wis., and opened a general store, remaining until 1879, when he located in Eureka township, Polk county, and kept a store until 1882, when he moved to Spring Brook, Washburn county, Wis., living with his son, Henry, until his death, March 9, 1892. His wife passed away in Grantsburg, Wis., in 1879.

**T. H. Thompson** was born in Ireland in 1835, son of John and Mary (Graham) Thompson, natives of Ireland, who removed to Canada in 1837 and spent the remainder of their days there.

Mr. T. H. Thompson came to Wisconsin in 1856 during the month of July and engaged in a saw mill enterprise. In 1866 he opened a mercantile establishment, continuing for twenty-nine years until November, 1895, when he turned the business over to his son. During those years he established a reputation for honor and integrity, which is now one of the important assets of the business. Mr. Thompson is now president of the St. Croix Bank at St. Croix Falls. He has always taken an active part in everything that tended toward the betterment of the village and the progress of the county. He lives in a beautiful and well furnished home in the village, pretty enough to adorn a corner lot in the residence sections of any of the large cities. Mr. Thompson was married in 1861 to Liza Clendenning, born in New Brunswick, Canada, in 1839, by whom he has four children: George H. now runs the mercantile business and has a fine home in this village;

Mary E. is now Mrs. Palmer; Nellie is the wife of Fred Ollcott, of whom mention is found in this history; W. T. is a graduate of the State University. Mrs. Liza Thompson died October 3, 1884, and Mr. Thompson was married, in 1895, to Clara Rogers, of this village.

**S. J. Wall** is a native of Polk county, township of Farmington, Wis., born July 24, 1862. His father, Samuel Wall, was born in Shropshire, England, June 24, 1827, and came to America in 1849. He located at St. Paul, Minn., two years, working as a stone mason. Then he spent three years in Stillwater, Minn., afterward in 1853 settling in Farmington, Wis., taking up the lime business, which he discontinued when the "Soo" railroad came through. His latter years were spent as a market gardener. Samuel Wall was married in 1857 to Anna Moore, who still survives. He died June 20, 1902, and was the father of twelve children: Walter, S. J., William, Thomas, Ada, Anna, Martha, Lizzie, Joseph, Edward, Winnifred and Grace. S. J, received his education in Farmington and in the St. Paul High School. Having learned the lime business with his father, he ran the Kelley, Norton & Ward lime kiln for four years, and in 1885 came to St. Croix Falls, taking up the business of dealing in building material, which business he has since continued to follow. The business has proven a most successful one, one of the evidences of Mr. Wall's prosperity being a beautiful home on Washington street. Mr. Wall is a Democrat in politics. He has been a trustee of the village twelve years and president two terms. He is now secretary of the Polk County Agricultural Society and belongs to the Modern Woodmen and the Odd Fellows. In religion he is a Catholic, to which faith his father was converted from the Episcopal belief many years ago. The subject of this sketch was married, November 20, 1882, to Alice Perkins, of Eureka, Wis., daughter of Albert and Anna Perkins, by whom he has four children: Albert, born October 12, 1883, killed in a railroad accident, May 4, 1907; Floyd, born November 24, 1885; Gladys, born December 17, 1888, and Adah, born July 17, 1898. In Mrs. Wall's family were eleven brothers and sisters, as follows: William, Reuben, Joseph, Nathaniel, Emma, Addie, Hattie, Alice, Margaret, George and Frank.

**Dr. F. W. Walker,** the only physician and surgeon located in St. Croix Falls, Wis., was born in England, June 7, 1859, son of William Walker. Neither of his parents ever came to the United States. He received his education in private schools in England and came to America in 1884. He clerked for a time in a drug store in St. Paul, Minn. He then entered the Rush Medical College at Chicago, Ill., and graduated in 1890, afterward taking up practice in the city hospital of St. Paul, practicing one year.

Subsequently he came to St. Croix Falls, where he has since been located. Dr. Walker is skilled and tactful, and has the esteem and affection of the people to whose families he has ministered in the hours of sickness and distress. Aside from his village patients he has a large country practice and is widely regarded as an able family physician. A Republican in politics, he has been active in town affairs and has held practically all the town and school offices. He has been president of the Village Improvement Society, member of the village board of trustees, belongs to the state and county medical societies and fraternizes with the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen. The doctor was married, in 1884, to Eliza Wheatley, by whom he has two children: Alice is a graduate of the Wisconsin State University and teaches school, and Arthur is attending the St. Croix Falls High School.

## ST. CROIX FALLS TOWNSHIP.

St. Croix includes township 34, range 18, and two partial sections of range 19. It was organized in 1854, but, unfortunately, no records of its organization can be found. The surface of the township is agreeably diversified by hill and plain and was supplied with many species of timber, including maple, elm and several varieties of oak. The St. Croix river forms its western boundary and presents here some of its wildest and most beautiful scenery, including the trap rock ledges of the Dalles. The buildings of the Falls company formed the nucleus of a village which took the name of the Falls and is situated on the east bank of the river. There are three school buildings in the township. The chairman of St. Croix Falls township is Charles H. Anderson; clerk, H. D. Blanding; treasurer, John H. Towers; assessor, John Holberg. There were in the township in 1908: 318 horses, assessed at $19,663; 1,215 neat cattle, assessed at $18,813; 1 mule, assessed at $50; 230 sheep and lambs, assessed at $689; 267 swine, assessed at $1,473; 19,850.02 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $375,005; personal property, assessed at $60,575; total assessment, $435,580. The following acreage was devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 59; corn, 440; oats, 1,430; barley, 314; rye, 14; potatoes, 97; other root crops, 9; raspberries, 1; hay, 1,337; bearing apple trees, 201. There are three villages, St. Croix Falls, Centuria and Lamar.

**Frank P. Blanding,** a farmer of St. Croix Falls township, is a native of Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, born April 18, 1849, son of E. M. and Eliza (Tuttle) Blanding, also natives of Pennsylvania. The father was a mason by trade and followed that occupation until coming to St. Croix Falls in 1856. He preempted 200 acres of land in the township, broke and improved

the land, erected a house and other buildings and continued to reside there for the remainder of his life. He died in September, 1871. Frank P. received his education in the schools of St. Croix Falls township and farmed with his father until the latter's death, at which time he took possession of the home farm, also purchasing 120 acres in addition, which he has broken and improved. In 1892 he built a fine new residence. Upon his rich acres he carries on general farming and stock raising. In politics a Democrat, he has served several terms as township chairman, a position which he still occupies. He has also been town clerk for eleven years. Mr. Blanding was married to Anna McCourt, daughter of James McCourt, a farmer of Garfield township, this county. To this union have been born five children: Charles lives in Portland, Ore.; Ethel is in California; Howard is a student in the law school at Minneapolis; Frank, Jr., is at home, as is also Grace, the youngest child. The family religion is that of the Presbyterian church.

**Hon. William M. Blanding,** now deceased, was born in Lyme township, Huron county, Ohio, January 30, 1829, son of Eluna M. and Eliza (Tuttle) Blanding, who when William was six years old moved to Hartford, Pa. In that village William was educated, graduating from the university at that place. In 1850 he came westward and settled in St. Croix Falls. For a number of years he engaged somewhat extensively in lumbering, but later devoted his time to his large and beautiful farm near the village of St. Croix Falls, which is now conducted by his son, Amos. During his career he filled many positions of public trust and honor. During the Civil war he was lieutenant of the Home Guards. He was at one time president of the village of St. Croix Falls and for many years served as county surveyor. He was also probate judge, county commissioner, supervisor, school trustee and register of the United States land office. It is worthy of note that among the schoolmates of William there were twelve that were nearly of the same age. Among these several attained fame. Cyrus Carpenter became governor of Iowa; H. W. Williams attained a place on the Supreme bench; J. E. Streeter became United States district judge of Nebraska, and Sarah Jones attained some little note as a writer. After a life that had been filled with tasks well performed and duties never shirked, Mr. Blanding passed away, December 17, 1901, and was laid to rest in the village cemetery. Mr. Blanding was married, May 24, 1857, to Eliza M. Tuttle, of St. Croix Falls, daughter of Andrew L. and Lucy (Bacon) Tuttle, natives of England, who came to St. Croix Falls in 1849. Mr. Tuttle was a millwright by trade and was induced to come here for the purpose of modernizing the mills up and down the river. He rebuilt the first dam across the St. Croix.

He subsequently followed lumbering for several years and then homesteaded 160 acres in Rock county. During the gold craze he went to Pike's Peak, but the rigors of the journey and the hardships of the life there proved too much for him and he died there. The mother later sold her property at Rock Creek and went to Balsam Lake, where, together with her sons, she bought and conducted the Tuttle hotel, remaining there until her death. Mrs. Blanding is still living. To her and W. M. Blanding were born fourteen children: Seymour W., Mary L., Josie, Tuttle P., Amos, Ruth, Marion, Andrew, Eliza M., John N., Agnes, Cyrus C., Harlan W. and Pearl. Mary L., Tuttle P., Ruth, Andrew and Cyrus C. are dead. The family faith is that of the Episcopal church.

**Peter Grant** is a native of Canada, born March 22, 1857, son of Alexander and Margaret (McDonald) Grant, natives of Canada. The father died in January, 1873, and the mother December 25, 1905. Peter Grant received his education in Canada and then came to St. Croix Falls township, lumbering and working in the woods until 1884. In that year he moved onto a farm in St. Croix Falls township that he had purchased in 1878. This farm consists of eighty acres. In 1905 Mr. Grant erected a new house. He carries on general farming and stock raising to some extent. He is a Republican, but has been too busy to seek public office. His religious belief is that of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Grant was married, April 9, 1896, to Elizabeth McKenzie, of Nova Scotia, daughter of Alexander and Mary McCrey. Her parents came to St. Croix Falls township some years ago and resided here until the time of their deaths. Mr. and Mrs. Grant have no children.

**James Hunter** was born in the city of Brechin, Fairfaxshire, Scotland, April 18, 1836, son of William and Susan (Greig) Hunter, also natives of that country. Mr. Hunter came to America in 1856 and located in Hamilton, Canada. He then went to Greenville, Miss., and later to East St. Louis, Ill. He then returned to Canada and located in Nassagameya township, Holton county, remaining there eight years, later coming to Taylors Falls in the spring of 1869 and worked at his trade as carpenter, being employed a part of the time working on boats. In the fall of 1876 he came to St. Croix Falls township, bought 100 acres of land, broke and improved the place, and combined general farming with carpenter work. During his career he has worked on a number of important buildings, including the first frame dwelling house erected in East St. Louis, Ill. He is a Republican in politics and attends the Presbyterian church. For twenty-two years he has served as justice of the peace, for four years he has been chairman of his township, and was township treasurer for

six years. He has also served as side supervisor and school clerk. His farm now consists of 127 acres of good land, the place being regarded as one of the model farms of the township. Mr. Hunter was married in September, 1862, to Mary A. Moffat, a native of Scotland, daughter of Richard and Mary (Little) Moffat. To this union have been born five children: Richard, James, John, Agnes and Mary. The mother of these children died September 6, 1875, and Mr. Hunter married again. His second wife died in 1892. The oldest son, Richard, married Lucy C. Anderson and by her have been born seven children: Archie, Lottie, George, Mary, John, David and Fannie. Mrs. Richard Hunter is the daughter of George P. Anderson, now of Balsam Lake, this county. She was the first white child born in the township of Georgetown, Polk county.

**Nels E. Lenroot** is a native of Hamlin, Albion township, Wis., born March 25, 1872, son of Nels L. and Esther (Johnson) Lenroot, natives of Sweden and Norway respectively. The father came to America in 1855 and located for a short time in Boston. He engaged in the mercantile business in St. Paul, Minn., one year, then located in Alden township, Polk county. He preempted eighty acres, together with his brother Lars, and the two worked together in breaking the land. In 1858 they sold out and Nels L. went to Duluth, Minn., the brother going to Superior, Wis. The former remained in Duluth until 1861, when he joined the Union Army, enlisting at Ft. Snelling, October 16, 1861, and serving until September 2, 1865, when he was mustered out. He returned to Duluth and about this time his wife came over from the old country. He followed brick making in Duluth until 1867, then took up the same occupation at Eau Claire and remained there for some years. July 15, 1868, he was married to Esther L. Johnson. In 1871 he went to Hamlin, Albion township, Wis., homesteaded 160 acres and broke the land, making many improvements. He lived there five years. When young Nels was about four years of age the family came to Taylors Falls and lived a year, then about 1878 came to St. Croix Falls township, where the father homesteaded eighty acres, breaking and improving the land and continuing farming until October 18, 1892, when he died at the age of sixty-three years. The mother is still living, making her home with her son. Nels E. Lenroot received his education in the district schools and worked on the farm with his father. In addition to the old homestead, where he carries on general farming, he owns forty acres in his own name. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Swedish Baptist church. He is still single. Aside from Nels E. there is one brother and one sister in the family. Ida May was born May 3, 1874, and Frank Martin was born July 15, 1870.

Congressman Irvine L. Lenroot, of Superior, is a cousin of Nels E. Lenroot.

**J. B. Towers,** a veteran of the Civil war, was born in Charlotte county, New Brunswick, Canada, June 5, 1833, son of Walter S. and Jane (McLaughlin) Towers. The former died in Canada and the latter came to St. Croix Falls township in 1876 and resided with her son until her death in 1878. Mr. Towers received his education in the schools of his native land and left there at the age of twenty-three years. He located at Cedar Rapids, Ia., and in the spring of 1860 drove a four-horse team to Pike's Peak. He stayed there one winter. On his way home he joined the Union army at Omaha, Neb., September 21, 1861, serving in Company B, First Nebraska Cavalry. At St. Louis this regiment was consolidated with the Fifth Iowa Cavalry. After serving with credit during the war Mr. Towers was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., August 16, 1865, and was discharged at Clinton, Iowa., a short time later. He returned to New Brunswick and farmed until 1876, when he came to St. Croix Falls township and purchased 113 acres of land, built a house, broke the land and combined general farming with the trade of carpenter. A Republican in politics, he has served as chairman of the township several terms and has been assessor one year. He votes the Republican ticket and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He also belongs to McKinley Post, No. 111, G. A. R., of St. Croix Falls. Mr. Towers was married September, 1869, to Matilda M. Schools, daughter of Nicholas and Rachel (Jordan) Schools, by whom he has had six children: Laura, Jessie, Walter, John, Ray and Edna.

## CENTURIA VILLAGE.

Centuria is a thriving village on the "Soo" line, in the township of St. Croix Falls. It has several business houses, and bids fair to be one of the coming centers of the county. Situated as it is in a rich valley and the center of a large farming district, it has many advantages which its people are not slow to profit by.

**Gust Anderson,** manager of the Polk County Coöperative Company at Centuria, is a native of Sweden, born July 23, 1868, son of John and Elizabeth Anderson, who came from Sweden to America in 1883 and located at Sioux Falls, S. D., until 1887, when they went to Potter county, same state, and homesteaded 160 acres of land, which they broke, cleared and improved, doing general farming until 1892. In that year they sold the farm and moved to Raymond, Minn., where the father lived with his sons until 1898, when he went to Barnum, Minn., and lived with his son, Otto, until his death, in February, 1901. The mother is still living with her son, Otto, at Pine River, Minn. Young Gust re-

ceived his education in his native country and in the public schools of America. In 1892 he purchased 120 acres of land in Holland township, Kandiyohi county, Minnesota, which he broke and improved, erecting a pleasant home and suitable outbuildings, carrying on general farming until 1904, when he sold eighty acres of his farm, still retaining eighty acres. He then came to Polk county, Centuria village, and engaged in the general mercantile business for N. Johnson. In 1905 Mr. Johnson sold his business to the Polk County Coöperative Company and Mr. Anderson was engaged as manager, which position he still retains. Mr. Anderson was married June 30, 1898, to Annetta Johnson, daughter of John R. Johnson. She came to America with her parents in 1890, located in Potter county, South Dakota, and in 1892 went to Missoula, Mont., where she stayed until the fall of 1896, when she came to Minneapolis, where she stayed until her marriage. Her mother died in November, 1895, and her father in March, 1906. Mrs. Anderson was born June 27, 1867, and has borne to Mr. Anderson two children: Ernest R., born April 10, 1899, and Edna M., born July 1, 1900. Mr. Anderson votes the Republican ticket and belongs to the Lutheran church. While in the town of Holland he was chairman of the township four years and served nine years as school clerk.

**Frank A. Handlos,** manager of the hardware and implement business of the Polk County Coöperative Company at Centuria, was born at White Bear, Minn., August 24, 1870, son of Albert and Margaret Handlos, who came to America in 1853 and settled at St. Paul, Minn. Later they removed to White Bear, where they have since remained. Frank A. received his education at White Bear and farmed with his father until 1896, when he came to St. Croix township and purchased 120 acres of land. He continued farming and lumbering until 1901, when he moved to Centuria village and engaged in the hardware and implement business. This he successfully conducted until 1907, when he sold his business to the Polk County Coöperative Company and was chosen by that company as manager of the store, which position he now holds. He still owns the property and buildings, having disposed of the business only. Mr. Handlos is a Republican and a member of the Catholic church. He is now serving his fourth term as treasurer of the village of Centuria. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen and the Odd Fellows. Mr. Handlos was married, June 8, 1899, to Bertha Martini, daughter of William and Julia Martini, natives of Germany, who came to America and located at Taylors Falls, Minn., later coming to St. Croix Falls township, where they still reside. To Mr. and Mrs. Handlos have been born three children: Ruth, born September 16, 1900; Richard, born April 20, 1903, and Mildred, born December 28, 1904.

**William Ihrig,** who is in the farm, saw mill and lumber business in Centuria, is a native of Germany, born October 31, 1851, son of Fred and Sophia (Rhimeir) Ihrig, natives of Germany, who came to America in 1856, locating in Minnesota, where the father farmed until his death, in April, 1874. The mother died in 1892. William came to this country as a young boy and for many years worked on the home farm. In 1894 he came to Centuria village, purchased 160 acres of land and engaged in farming. The farm is rich and well improved and is conducted along the latest lines. In addition to his farming interests he owns a large saw mill and lumber business, managing the industry himself. Mr. Ihring is a Republican in politics, but has never sought public office, being too busy with his own duties to meddle in public affairs. He is hard working and industrious, one of Centuria's substantial citizens. He was married, September 26, 1874, to Mary Huber, of Minnesota, daughter of Philip and Margaret (Burkhardt) Huber, natives of Germany, who came to America in 1858. The father died in July, 1905, and the mother is still living in Minnesota. To Mr. and Mrs. Ihrig have been born three children: William W., born March 7, 1882; Lena K., born March 23, 1885, and Arthur H., born February 10, 1888. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

**George A. Lawrence,** general merchant at Centuria, was born in Warren county, Pennsylvania, May 19, 1848, son of Benjamin and Susan Knight, natives, respectively, of Vermont and New York state. The father engaged in saw milling and lumbering in Pennsylvania and came to Pierce county in 1856, taking up the business of making guns, which he followed for the remainder of his life. Benjamin Lawrence died February 3, 1904, and his wife in October, 1906. George A. received his education in the schools of his native county and also in Pierce county, afterward taking up farming in Gilman, Pierce county, following same until 1901, when he came to Centuria and opened the general store which he has since conducted. He purchased a village lot and erected the building wherein his store is now located. He does a large business and is on the high road to prosperity. In politics he is a Republican and has served as street commissioner, village marshal and city councilman. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and to the Odd Fellows. Mr. Lawrence was married, July 4, 1878, to Josephine Graham, daughter of William and Sophrina Graham, both of whom now reside in Pierce county, Wis. Mrs. Lawrence was born in Dunn county, Wisconsin, September 15, 1859, and to her have been born nine children: Harry E., April 19, 1879; Marie, December 21, 1880; George B., November 15, 1883; Nellie, May 22, 1885; Esther, October 10, 1886; Addie, October 11, 1888; Morris, January 22, 1891, and Bessie

and Blanche, born February 1, 1895. Nellie died March 21, 1903. Mr. Lawrence is a self-made man and a good citizen.

**John R. Lowe,** editor and proprietor of the Centuria "Outlook" and Polk county "Coöperative Bulletin," and one of the leading newspaper men of the valley, was born in East Townsend, Huron county, O., May 13, 1840, son of Alpha and Maria (Van Houten) Lowe, the former a native of England and the latter of New York state. Alpha Lowe learned his trade as carpenter in England, came to America in 1827, located in New York City, then came west to Ohio in 1835, located in East Townsend, bought 120 acres, cleared and improved the land, erected a home and outbuildings, carried on general farming and ended his days there. John R. Lowe received his education in the public schools of his native state and spent one year at the Baldwin University at Berea, O. After leaving college he enlisted in the Union army, September 23, 1861, at Milan, O., serving in Company C, Fifty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. In 1861 he was promoted to corporal; April 4, 1862, to sergeant; July 17, 1862, to first sergeant; February 11, 1863, to sergeant-major; May 2, 1863, to second lieutenant; March 19, 1864, to first lieutenant; June 27, 1864, to captain. In all the capacities he acquitted himself with valor and discretion. He was discharged at Cleveland, O., July 19, 1865, at the close of the war. He participated in the following battles: Bull Pasture Mountain, Cedar Mountain, Bull Run,, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, Va.; Gettysburg, Pa.; Missionary Ridge, Tenn.; Resacca, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta and Savannah, Ga.; Aversborough and Bentonville, N. C., and many other minor engagements. He was wounded at Bull Run, August 30, 1862, in the calf of the leg and was laid up for two months. Returning home July 19, 1865, he took up farming in his native state. In 1867 he purchased a farm in Alexander county, Illinois, and in 1870 went to Manchester, Ia., taking up the sewing machine business. Like many others, he suffered in the panic of 1873, closed up his business, went to Bijou Hills, Brule county, S. D., and homesteaded 480 acres of land, proved up his claim, built a house, broke the land and stayed there until 1890, when he moved to Mitchell, S. D. In 1881 he went into the mercantile business in Bijou Hills, S. D., and continued until 1890. Subsequently he took up the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union work and in 1893 became president of the state organization for two terms. He never had talked in public before and this was a new venture for him, but he made a great success of it and proved a popular and resourceful officer. Until 1894 he continued to live at Mitchell and then moved to Parker, S. D., and established the "People's Watchman," of which he was editor and sole proprietor. Previous to this he had managed the Bijou Hills

"Times" in connection with his mercantile business. After continuing the "Watchman" for two years he moved to Sacred Heart, Minn., and established a paper there, staying until 1897, then going to Faribault, Minn., and starting a paper there, naming it the "Jeffersonian." In 1901 he came to Centuria, Wis., when the town was opened up, bought lots, erected a business house and residence and is now the sole proprietor, owner and editor of the Centuria "Outlook," which he established. J. R. Lowe has always taken an active interest in county affairs. He served as county commissioner three years in Brule county, South Dakota, was its first superintendent of schools for two years, and is now serving his third term as member of the county board of supervisors of Polk county, Wisconsin. He ran for congress on the Populist ticket in the third Minnesota congressional district. In politics he is a Prohibitionist, in religion a Methodist and in fraternal affiliations a Mason. His life has been one of activity and he has left his impress on every community wherein he has resided. J. R. Lowe was married, May 17, 1866, to Amelia M. Stimson, by whom he has four children: John G., Charles C., Gretel A. and Alpha H.

The following article was written for this history by J. R. Lowe, editor and publisher of the "Outlook." The Polk County Coöperative Company was organized, January 7, 1905, at Lykens by E. W. Keplinger, who turned over his building and stock of goods to twenty-four farmers. At a meeting held January 14 of the same year it was reported that fifty-two had subscribed for the stock. Each of these had taken an equal share of $100. Mr. Keplinger was made manager on a salary. Forty farmers of Centuria organized in like manner February 9, 1905, bought out N. Johnson and made him manager. He resigned during the first year and Gust Anderson was hired in his stead. Soon afterward sixty persons organized at Range and made Edward Ekegren manager. The following year E. J. Schneider turned over his stock and building at Amery, valued at $34,000. These were followed in turn by Little Falls, T. O. Winger, manager; Milltown, J. M. Michaelson, manager; Frederic, G. H. Marsden, manager; Clear Lake, Thomas Stout, manager; St. Croix Falls, Charles Anderson, manager; Eureka, J. C. Mattson, manager. In addition to these the hardware store of Frank Handlos, of Centuria, was absorbed by the Centuria department. There are now 600 stockholders in the company, each holding one share. The company is capitalized at $100,000 and has about $90,000 working capital, doing an estimated business of nearly $300,000 a year. It is managed by a board of twelve directors, who meet quarterly. It also has a general manager. It pays 8 per cent on paid-up stock and a dividend on purchases in proportion each

gives the stores. From the start made at Lykens less than four years ago there are now eighty stores organized around the Twin cities with a wholesale establishment organized recently at Minneapolis. It is copied after the Rochdale plan of England, which has proven an unbounded success. The trade of this line of stores, not over sixty years since the time they were first started, is measured in hundreds of millions of dollars annually. The profits of the manufacturing, wholesale and retail, all go to the consumer. Half dividends are paid to non-shareholders on their trade. Stores that own no stock but purchase from the coöperative wholesale receive half dividends. P. G. Bloomdall is president; Henry Davidson, secretary and treasurer, and E. J. Schneider, general manager.

## STERLING TOWNSHIP.

Sterling is composed of township 36, ranges 19 and 20. The eastern part is heavy hardwood timber lands with rich soil, suitable for wheat, while the western portion is very sandy. The whole township is well supplied with hay meadows, which afford great advantages to the stock raiser. Samuel Deneen and William Trimmer were the first settlers and came to Sterling in 1855. In 1856 William Lowell came from Stillwater. The township was organized in 1855 and it was first called Moscow, which name was changed one year afterward to Sterling. It has six fine large school buildings, which show the wonderful growth from the time the first school was held in an old log shanty by Fanny Trimmer about 1856. The chairman of Sterling township is T. F. Monty; clerk, William T. Evoy; treasurer, C. E. Gullickson; assessor, Peter E. Ramstrom. There were in the township in 1908: 325 horses, assessed at $19,734; 1,150 neat cattle, assessed at $17,209; 1 mule, assessed at $50; 119 sheep and lambs, assessed at $248; 223 swine, assessed at $1,065; 31,474.22 acres, assessed, with improvements, at $215,754; personal property, assessed at $56,363; total assessment, $272,117. The following acreage was devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 266; corn, 492; oats, 866; barley, 114; rye, 175; potatoes, 147; other root crops, 2; hay, 711; timber, 482; 4 bearing apple trees. There are two villages, Worth and Cushing, the latter being partly in Laketown.

**C. J. Askov,** of the firm of Askov Bros., proprietors of the Askov store at Cushing and the Arch store at Luck, was born in Denmark December 20, 1876, son of H. P. J. Askov, of whom mention will be found in the sketch of L. J. Askov, of Luck. Mr. Askov was educated in the schools of Luck township and spent his early life on a farm. He worked four years in the Luck creamery and then came to Cushing and operated the Cushing

creamery for one year, succeeding his brother, L. J., as postmaster and taking up the management of the Cushing branch of the stores owned by the brothers. He deals in notions, paints, oils and proprietary articles, also handling undertaking supplies. Mr. Askov lives in the village and owns some town property. A public-spirited and progressive man in every respect, he is always willing to help in every effort that tends to the betterment of the village, township and county. He is a thorough believer in the future of the county and is doing his share toward assisting in its progress. He is a Republican in politics and, although he has never cared for public office, he has served with credit as justice of the peace. Mr. Askov was married in 1902 to Lizzie Sornson, by whom he has one son, Raymond. The Askov brothers are fine types of business men, just the kind that are needed in a growing community like Polk county.

**Ole Gullickson,** one of Cushing's progressive men, was born in Polk county, July 25, 1875, son of Andrew and Lena (Eng) Gullickson. The father was one of the old settlers of this county, having come here in the early days when the country was wild and unbroken. He was killed in 1903 by a mad bull. In the family there were six children: Sophia, who died in 1908; Ole, Martin, Charles, John and Frank, who died in 1906. Charles carries on dairy farming on the home place of 120 acres. Ole was educated in Polk county, afterward farming and working in the woods. Later he took up butter making, working four years at Trade Lake and three years at Trade River. In 1901 he purchased his present business at Cushing, carrying a general line of men's furnishings, meats and groceries. He runs a good live store and has a large business, having met with great success. He is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Gullickson was married, June 16, 1900, to Annie Wedell, of Trade Lake, who came here in 1890. They have no children. Mr. Gullickson's business is rapidly growing and he has a large trade for many miles around. His methods are honest and honorable and he well deserves the place that he occupies in the community.

**Thomas Hansen,** merchant at Cushing and for twelve years chairman of the township of Sterling, was born in Denmark, March 31, 1851, and came to the United States in 1869. He spent his first seven years in this country in doing various labor in Michigan and Minnesota. In 1876 he came to Polk county and engaged in farming in Sterling township for a period of fifteen years. In 1891 he established a store at Cushing in connection with A. Hannings, whom he later bought out, now owning the entire business. He now runs a general store and enjoys a large trade. Mr. Hansen is one of the pioneers of the township and

well remembers the early days when he settled in the woods and cleared off the trees and stumps, in the meantime encountering all kinds of wild game. Mr. Hansen is a Republican in politics, but in local affairs uses his own judgment as to who shall receive his vote without regard to politics. He has served on the school and town boards. In religion he is a Lutheran and in fraternal affiliations a Mason. Mr. Hansen was married in 1900 to Laura Nelson, by whom he has had three children: Barbra, Lena and Tora, all of whom are at home. Aside from his store, Mr. Hansen owns twenty acres in the village of Cushing and some farm property also.

**Otto Johannsen** is a native of Denmark, born December 2, 1880, son of Mads Johannsen, who never came to this country. Otto was educated in his native country and learned the blacksmithing trade. In 1903 he came to the United States and remained thirteen months at Clinton, Ia., then returned to the old country to assist his mother in building a new house, his father being dead. In 1905 he again came to America and located at Cushing, in Polk county, establishing his present blacksmithing establishment, erecting a large building. In connection with blacksmithing he is also a wagon and sled maker, and the place is equipped with a ten-horsepower engine to operate the machinery. Our subject is a hard working man and, although he has been in this country but a short time, has already achieved success, his work having won for himself the respect and esteem of those with whom he does business. Mr. Johannsen was married in 1905 to Metthea Christensen, also a native of Denmark. No children have blessed this union. Mr. Johannsen votes the Republican ticket and is a thorough believer in the platform of that party.

**Jeppe Peterson,** general merchant at Cushing, is a native of Denmark, born November 16, 1857. He came to the United States in 1881, bringing his mother and sister with him. Upon landing in Red Wing, Minn., he found that he had just seventy-five cents in his pocket. This was expended for breakfast for the three; and penniless, young Jeppe started out to find work to support himself and the family. He remained in the vicinity of Red Wing, Diamond Bluff and Prescott, Wis., for two years working in sawmills and in the woods. He then went to Minneapolis and worked one year in the harvester works there. The mother died in Minneapolis, passing away while she was attending church service. After leaving the thresher company, Mr. Peterson worked four years for the Minnesota Glue Company and then for nine years engaged in the grocery business in the same city under the firm name of Peterson & Fisher. He then sold out, and in 1896 came to Polk county, engaging in business

at Cushing in partnership with Mr. Henning for two years. Disposing of his interest in the establishment to Mr. Oske Olsen he opened a general store, which he has since continued with great success. He owns his store and residence and the ground upon which they are located. A Republican in politics, he has served as justice of the peace, but has not sought other public office. Mr. Peterson was married in 1885 to Sarah Jacobsen, by whom he has three children: Peter, who is a gas fitter and lives at home; Julia, who is also at home, and Jens, who died in 1903. Mr. Peterson is now well-to-do and is highly regarded, both in the village and in the township.

**P. L. Petersen,** owner of a general mill at Cushing, was born in Denmark, April 24, 1876, and came to the United States in 1879 with his father, Nels P., who still lives on a farm about two miles out of Cushing, which he broke and improved and where he carries on general farming. The son was educated in Polk county and came to Cushing in 1898, having spent his earlier days on the farm and in the woods. Upon coming to this village he started a saw, planing and feed mill, also a general work shop. This establishment he still operates, having a large general business. Mr. Petersen is an expert in his line of business and the work turned out by him is of a high grade. He is a pleasant gentleman to meet, and has many friends, all of whom wish him success. He is a Republican in politics and interested in public affairs, but has never cared to seek public office, choosing rather to devote all his time to his business. Desiring to establish a home he wooed and won Miss Mary Gath, to whom he was married, September 4, 1907. He is a popular member of the Modern Woodmen and occupies a high place in the regard of his fellow townsmen.

## WEST SWEDEN TOWNSHIP.

West Sweden embraces township 37, range 17, and it is almost exclusively a hardwood timbered district, with some pine in the northern part. The surface is undulating, the soil is rich and well watered by Spirit creek and Upper Wood river, the northern part having numerous lakes and meadows. The principal settlers were Swedes in early days. The township was organized November 10, 1875, and the first supervisors were N. C. Johnson, A. Larson and A. Dolberg. The township has now two schoolhouses. The chairman of West Sweden township is John G. Chell; clerk F. O. Jansson; treasurer, William Moberg; assessor, George Hanson Fries. There were in the township in 1908, 169 horses, assessed at $11,075; 806 cattle, assessed at $9,249; 2 mules, assessed at $50; 117 sheep and lambs, assessed at $234; 107 swine assessed at $488; 21,504.65 acres, assessed, with improvements, at

$222,635; personal property, assessed at $27,961; total assessment, $250,596. The following acreage was devoted to the various crops in the township in 1908: Wheat, 183; corn, 44; oats, 227; barley, 22; potatoes, 29; hay, 582. There are two settlements, Frederic and West Sweden.

## FREDERIC VILLAGE.

Frederic was founded November 21, 1901, by William J. Starr, of Eau Claire, Wis. The first trains on the new Polk county branch of the "Soo' line had reached Frederic a few days previous to that date. From the beginning Frederic was a lumber town, being surrounded on all sides for many miles around by tracts of hardwood land. The McDonough Manufacturing Company, of Eau Claire, erected a large sawmill in the village during the winter of 1901-2, with a capacity of over 40,000 feet per day. During the next five years this mill employed continuously from 75 to 100 men. The Frederic W. Upham Lumber Company, of Chicago, bought from William J. Starr the stumpage on some 30,000 acres of land surrounding Frederic, and E. S. Hammond, of Eau Claire, Wis., took the contract to log the entire tract of land during the next five years. Mr. Hammond built extensive logging camps, and each winter during the term of his contract employed from 200 to 300 men. A large number of settlers moved to the vicinity of Frederic, while the logging operations were still under way. Each year the cut-over lands of the previous winter were placed on the market at reasonable prices. During the same time, the village increased rapidly. During the first year of its existence its population had reached the 300 mark and in March, 1908, it was incorporated as a village. A village government was immediately formed, with D. J. Chandler as its first president. Among the first acts of the new village board was the issuing of a telephone and a telegraph franchise, granted to the Consolidated Telephone and Telegraphic Company and a little later the electric light franchise, given to Frank McDonough, of Eau Claire. During the next year the citizens voted in favor of a water works system, issued $10,000 of bonds, erected a substantial cement-block village hall and water works station combined. In 1908 the population of the village had increased to 800. The village boasts of having about it a tract of land rapidly being improved, and destined to be one of the important dairy and stock raising sections of the state. Among its institutions, Frederic includes the First National bank, the only national bank in Polk county; a flour mill, with the most improved machinery, having a capacity of 100 barrels per day; the hoopmill, a sawmill and a heading mill, employing some 40 or 50 men the year around. Frederic has three churches, each

one owning its own church building, namely: the Methodist Episcopal church, the Swedish Lutheran, and the Roman Catholic church. Frederic boasts of her good schools, with an enrollment of over 200 pupils, in charge of five teachers, already one of the largest schools in Polk county. Frederic has also two newspapers, the "Star" and the "Times;" two blacksmith shops, three saloons, two hardware stores, one of them selling furniture; one coöperative barrel manufacturing company—branch of Minneapolis; three general stores, one dealer in furniture, one flour mill, one millinery establishment, one flour and feed store, one tailor, one dealer in hardwood lumber, one harness shop, one confectionery and one restaurant.

Fire of an unknown origin destroyed twelve of the principal business houses in Frederic on the morning of November 9, 1908. The following sustained almost complete loss; Olson & Son, general merchants; C. A. Carlson, hardware; George Hagberg, general merchant; Raudawsky, clothing; Simon & Taylor, meat market; George Charland, jeweler; T. G. Luke, confectioner; Simon Bros., barbers; Mrs. Bermeister, Hotel Frederic; Carlan & Paine, saloon; James Humes, hotel; Charles Hubbard, saloon. The total loss was $50,000 with possibly $25,000 insurance. The village water works failed to work. Luck sent a fire engine on a special train.

**D. P. Butts** is a native of Clinton county, Iowa, born March 31, 1867, son of Page N. and Emma (Barclay) Butts, of whom a sketch will be found in this history. D. P. received his education in the public schools of Polk county and worked with his father on a farm located at Lorain, Wis. He has spent five years in the lumber woods, two years with the Aermotor Windmill Company, at Chicago; six years farming near Esmond, Benson county, N. Dak., and one summer as tape and rod man on the line of the "Soo" road. He helped to plat the village of Frederic, Wis., and was one of the first men to take up his residence within its limits. He was the first postmaster of the village, having been appointed in February, 1902. The office is now a fourth class one, but will probably soon be advanced to the third grade. Mr. Butts is a Republican in politics and has occupied all the city offices. He affiliates with the Modern Woodmen, the Modern Brotherhood and the Odd Fellows. The subject of this sketch was married in 1888 to Dora Williams, of St. Croix Falls, Wis., by whom he has three children, Page, Horace and June.

**Louis A. Copeland** was born in Shullsburg, Wis., July 12, 1874, son of Joseph and Jane (Richards) Copeland. His father was born in Ireland, of Scotch-Irish descent, while his maternal grandparents were natives of England. The father was a banker in Shullsburg, Wis., and died in 1893 at the Chicago World's

Fair, better known as the Columbian Exposition. The mother is still living, making her home on the old homestead in southern Wisconsin. Mr. Copeland attended the public schools at Shullsburg, Wis., and entered the University of Wisconsin, graduating from the academic course in 1896. From 1896 to 1900 he was assistant cashier in the First National Bank of Shullsburg, Wis. Later he took the law course at the University of Wisconsin and was graduated in 1902. He then came to Frederic and for one year practiced law with considerable success. The following year, having seen the commercial opportunities of Frederic, he organized the Bank of Frederic, which later was converted into the First National Bank of Frederic, the only national bank in Polk county, Wisconsin. In addition to his banking interests, Mr. Copeland is the Polk county agent for William J. Starr, looking after some 30,000 acres of wild land and attending to the townsite interests of Mr. Starr in Frederic. Mr. Copeland was united in marriage in 1903 to Frances Crabb. They have two children: Joseph and Louise. A Republican in politics, he is secretary of the Polk county Republican committee, a supervisor of the village of Frederic, a member of the county board and has been a delegate to political conventions. He belongs to the Odd Fellows, the Masons and the Modern Woodmen. He is now cashier of the bank which he organized, and also deals quite extensively in real estate. Mr. Copeland is an active successful man, and although he has already won success and honor his friends predict that he has a still brighter future ahead of him. Following was the statement of the First National Bank of Frederic, Wis., at the close of the business, September 21, 1908: Liabilities—capital, $25,000; surplus and profits, $2,353.89; circulation, $14,500; deposits, $85,043.26—$126,897.15. Assets—loans, $76,610.04; bonds, securities, etc., $21,767.42; building and furniture, $8,979.79; cash and due from banks, $19,539.90—$126,897.15. Officers: President, William J. Starr; vice president, C. A. Carlson; cashier, L. A. Copeland; assistant cashier, J. LeRoy Elwell; directors, William J. Starr, Charles E. Lewis, M. C. Pederson, E. J. Olson, C. A. Carlson, Louis Sund, Gustaf Hedwall, John H. Savage and L. A. Copeland.

**Alva Cruzen** is a native of this state, born in Waverly, Minn., July 1, 1881, son of John W. and Hanna (Pearson) Cruzen, natives of Geary county, Ohio. The father was a farmer, who in 1858, came westward and settled at Waverly, Minn., the birthplace of our subject. He purchased 320 acres of land, and followed farming there until he retired, in 1898. He passed away in 1904. His widow now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. James Holiday, of Waverly. Alva received his education in the common schools of Waverly and in the Waverly High school, afterward

taking a course in the McAllister Presbyterian college of St. Paul, from which he graduated with honors in 1900. For three years he clerked in the general store of J. J. Leuzinger, and afterward came to Frederic, Wis., engaging in the general merchandise business under the firm name of Perra & Cruzen. March 28, 1908, he became the sole proprietor. His business has reached good proportions and is still growing, commanding a big trade for miles around. His goods are of the best and Mr. Cruzen's business methods have gained for him the confidence of the people with whom he deals. He is always genial and accommodating and has a wide circle of friends. His store is neat and well kept and he carries a fine stock of goods. Mr. Cruzen is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Modern Brotherhood. He was married November 18, 1903, to Verna May Hewitt, daughter of George and Marthy M. Hewitt, of Canby, Minn. Mrs. Cruzen passed away August 6, 1908.

**George Hagberg** is a native of this state, born near Grantsburg, in Burnett county, August 7, 1874, son of E. G. and Albertine Hagberg, the former one of the early pioneers of Chisago county, Minnesota, who settled in Burnett county in the early days. The subject of this sketch received but little early school education, but being a careful reader with a retentive memory, he has acquired an education that many a school graduate might envy. Later in life he took a course in the C. C. Curtis Business college in Minneapolis, Minn. He worked at various occupations in Minneapolis for several years, and was employed in the flour mills for eight years. When the town of Frederic was opened he came here and bought lots, erecting a home. Since that time he has been in the mercantile business. This business prospered to such an extent that Mr. Hagberg was contemplating the erection of a new brick building when his store was destroyed by fire November, 1908. Mr. Hagberg votes the Republican ticket. He is a trustee of the village and a member of the Odd Fellows. He has been identified with the growth of the town and occupies a warm place in the esteem and affection of his friends. He was married to Marie Khindall and has two children—George E. and Theo L.

**L. A. Hoffmeir, M. D.,** was born in New York city, August 5, 1863, son of S. and Julia K. Hoffmeir, natives of Denmark. The father came to New York in the early days and was a blacksmith and farmer for two years. Later he became one of the settlers of Brown county, Wis., where he followed his trade until the time of his death. Our subject was educated at Waupaca, Wis., took a pharmaceutical course and was employed in a drug store fifteen years, receiving thus the groundwork for the fine medical education that he later acquired in the University of Chicago,

from which medical department he was graduated in 1896. After two years' practice of his profession at Marinette, Wis., and a short period at Grantsburg, Wis., he came to Polk county, locating at Cushing for four years. In 1902 Dr. Hoffmeir located in Frederic, Wis., where he has since continued with great success. He is skilled in his profession and his personality is such that he is a welcome visitor in the sick room and a pleasant companion out of it. For twelve years he has ministered to the people of Polk county and he remembers the time when there were still stumps in the main street of what is now the village of Frederic. A Republican in politics, he is serving his second term as county coroner. He is village clerk and has been active in building the village water works and in promoting other public improvements. Dr. Hoffmeir is medical examiner for the "Soo" road, for the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen, to which three societies he belongs, and also of all the other fraternities located here that require a medical examiner. Politically he has always been very active.

**G. H. Marsden** is a native of this state, born July 24, 1854. He attended the public school of Wisconsin and then took up farming. Later he engaged in the lumber business for twenty-six years for Rust Owen Lumber Company, working in sawmills in summers and in the woods winters, having charge of the camps for the last five years. He then successfully conducted a hotel in Drummond, Wis., for six years afterward, in 1902, coming to Frederic. He engaged in the mercantile business, carries a big stock of goods and enjoys a profitable trade. He not only owns the goods and good will of the store, but also the building in which the store is located, together with considerable real estate in the nature of village lots. Mr. Marsden is a Republican in politics, but has never looked for office, his business occupying all of his time. He belongs to the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Marsden was married February 22, 1881, to Ellen Hurley, by whom he has one son, Roy M., who works in a wholesale hardware house in St. Paul, Minn.

**J. D. Rice,** general contractor, is a native of Ohio, born in Union county, that state, Sepember 9, 1852. His parents were George M. and Sarah Rice, the former being a native of Virginia, who came to Ohio in the early days, pursuing his trade as a cabinetmaker. Later in life he manufactured hubs, spokes and the like. J. D. received his education in his native state, and then took up carpenter and wood work, which he has since followed. In 1877 he came to Polk county, purchased land and resided here until 1880, when he went to North Dakota, remaining twelve years, working at his trade in the city of Fargo. He then went to West Superior, now Superior, Wis., later to Burnett

county, Wis. While there he held the position of chairman of the township where he lived. In 1901 he came to Frederic, Polk county. At that time the village site had not been established and the house erected by our subject was one of the first residences in what is now the village. He also built the schoolhouse and other buildings. For five years he was with the Lake Shore road doing work on the stations and for some time he did similar work for the Northern Pacific. He still retains real estate in Burnett county and owns some fine property in Frederic. He is a Republican in politics and has recently retired from public office after occupying some political position for a continuous period of twenty-two years. Four years as president of the village and two years as school treasurer under bonds of $8,000 are included in this honorable record. J. D. Rice is an Odd Fellow and both he and his wife belong to the Rebekahs. In 1883 he was married to Jennie C. Johnson, who has proven an able and devoted helpmeet.

**W. W. Seery,** mayor of the village of Frederic, Wis., was born in Crawford county, Ohio, October 31, 1851, son of Peter and Margaret Ann (Pennington) Seery. He was educated in the public schools of Ohio and farmed until 1886, when he came to St. Croix Falls. After fourteen years he removed to Lykens, near Balsam Lake, this county, and built a store, running a general mercantile business and engaging in the lumber trade for some years. In January, 1904, he started manufacturing heads at Frederic for the Coöperative Barrel Company, of Minneapolis. Sixteen months later, in 1905, he built a hoop and saw mill combined, in which business he has since continued with great success. He now makes his home in the village of Frederic. He is a Republican in politics, and before becoming mayor served on the town board for one year. Mr. Seery was married December 25, 1872, to Elizabeth Burton, of Ohio, who has proven an able helpmeet in all his undertakings. Mayor Seery is highly respected and greatly liked by all who know him. His administration of public affoirs has met with general satisfaction.

## CHAPTER LIV.

## BURNETT COUNTY.

**Interesting Description of History and Conditions, Written by Frederick R. Huth—Rivers and Lakes—Forests and Farms —First Logging Operations—Industries—Railroads—The Arrow Line—Organization and Political Growth—Population — Fires and Tornadoes — Anti-License Sentiment— Unusual Court Case.**

Burnett county, Wisconsin, almost triangular in shape, lays about midway between the four great commercial centers of the Northwest—St. Paul and Minneapolis on the south and Superior and Duluth on the north. It includes townships 37 to 42, range 14; 38 to 42, range 15; 38 to 41, ranges 16 and 17; 37 to 40, ranges 18 and 19, and 37 to 38, range 20. It is bounded on the north by Douglas county, on the east by Washburn, on the south by Barron and Polk, on the west by Chisago and Pine counties, Minnesota, the St. Croix river forming the boundary line up to the northwest corner of township 41, range 15, where the river diverges to the east, and flows through the two upper townships of the county. Owing to the great crookedness of the St. Croix the western boundary of Burnett county is very irregular and eight of the towns are fractional, one having only a little more than a section on the east side of the river.

The county is well watered, its principal streams being the St. Croix, Clam, Yellow, Namekagon, Wood, Trade and Totogatic rivers. The main tributaries to these rivers are Black brook, Loon creek and Webb creek, with their numerous smaller feeders, most of them heading in springs of pure sparkling water. In addition to the rivers the county is dotted with many beautiful lakes of fine water. The largest of these are Yellow, Devils, Clam, Big Sand, Sand Birch Island, Webb, Mudhen, Spirit and Trade. Many smaller lakes abound, especially in the northern portion, where it is a saying that "every quarter section has a lake front."

Burnett county has many thousand acres of marsh lands. Most of these can be drained into some of the numerous waterways that thread their silvery course through the forests, many

of which are now fine farms, and only await more favorable drainage legislation in the state of Wisconsin, when the water will be let off and the marshes transformed into fertile farming lands. In fact, most of the lowlands are built up from the accumulations of alluvial substances for a period of thousands of years, and will be fertile almost beyond exhaustion when once brought under cultivation. Large tracts of bog ore are found in townships along the St. Croix, in ranges 16 to 19, but no commercial value has as yet been discovered in these. Owners of these lands hope, however, to demonstrate a value in this ore for the manufacture of paints.

An important value that formerly attached to these lowlands in some sections of the county, and particularly in townships 38 and 39, ranges 17 and 18, has now disappeared. The growing of cranberries was an important industry in the early seventies and up to the year 1894, when the great Hinckley, Minn., forest fires leaped across the watery channel that divides Burnett county from Minnesota and wiped out almost every cranberry vine in the marshes. Since then this industry, which at one time was occupying the attention of several companies, has practically died out. The thirty or forty miles of ditches that had been dug at a cost of about 75 cents per rod, the dry houses, the saw mill that had been erected for the purpose of sawing staves for cranberry barrels and lumber for boxes, have all been abandoned. A number of small marshes are so favorably located that they can be transformed into profitable cranberry farms at small cost and will be in the not distant future; but only one large cranberry farm is in course of preparation at present. The "Burnett County Journal" of August 5, 1904, then edited by Ed L. Peet, the promoter of this gigantic cranberry marsh, contains this description of the proposed marsh: "The great Northwest has long been known as the home of many of the largest things on earth. It has the largest grain fields, the largest mills, the largest iron mines, the largest state fair. It is now to become the home of the largest cultivated cranberry marsh in the world. The marsh is in Burnett county, Wisconsin, and the area to be devoted to cranberries exceeds 4,000 acres. The tract is along the east bank of the St. Croix, extending from Norway Point, fifteen miles southeast of Hinckley, to near the mouth of Crooked creek, twenty miles east of Hinckley. It is about eight miles in length and from half a mile to two miles in width. The nearest point of the completed marsh will be within twelve miles of Grantsburg, Wis. It costs from $200 to $400 to prepare properly an acre of cranberry ground and care for it until it is ready to bear. It may, therefore, require the expenditure of a million and a half of dollars

to bring the entire tract into production. On the other hand, an acre of cranberries has been known to pay a net profit of $1,000, and where the water conditions are perfect it is perfectly safe to figure $300 net profits annually. A single crop, well sold, will pay back the original outlay." To back up the confidence expressed in the foregoing quotation, Mr. Peet and his associates in this enterprise have expended several thousand dollars since 1904 in constructing ditches, building roads and setting out a small area of vines, from which they expect to produce the vines necessary to plant additional ground annually.

Like most of the counties of northern Wisconsin, Burnett was originally a dense forest. About eight townships in the southern and southeastern portion of the county were covered with hardwood timber. The value of the maple, oak, ash and elm was not recognized in the early years when the first white settlers penetrated the forests, and the hardy pioneers who came to hew homes out of the wilderness were attracted thither, not by the wealth of forest or stream, but by the wealth which they knew was in the rich soil that had produced the stately monarchs of the woodland. Hence farming became at once the leading occupation of the hardwood sections of the county, and today the entire area is one expanse of farms and gardens, interspersed with small tracts of woodland which is used either as pasture in conjunction with the farms or as wood lots. Not so in the more northerly and western portions of the county. Here the natural wealth was mostly in the white pine, Norway pine, large game and the abundance of fish that were found in every lake and brooklet. This attracted not the farmer, but the lumberman, the fisherman and the hunter. Many thousands of dollars' worth of game and fish were sent out of the county, as well as hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of logs and lumber.

The first logging operations in Burnett county began in the winter of 1864 and 1865 on an extensive scale. Previous to that time lumbering was done, but so small in volume that the county was not recognized as a timber section. During the years following the wealth of Burnett's forests became known to the lumberman and for many years was one of the principal industries here. Winslow Staples, of Stillwater, was among the foremost operators along the St. Croix. During the winter of 1873-74 he had a camp on the St. Croix near Big Island. The winter was so soft and open that it was impossible to do hauling on sleighs. All provisions were brought to camp on wheels and many were the times when tote-teams, mired to the hubs of the wagon wheels in mud, were compelled to go for miles to

summon aid to get pulled out of the mud. But Mr. Staples was not to be outdone by the elements. He built a tramway of tamarack poles three miles long and nine feet wide, on which he placed bunks fastened to iron trucks, the poles serving as wooden rails on which the trucks rolled. Four horses were used to haul a load of logs on this primitive logging railway, and about 5,000 feet was considered a good load. This tramway touched the St. Croix about a half mile below Big Island, on the north side of the river.

Ed St. John, among the oldest lumbermen in the valley says that no other such a winter was known here except that of 1845-46, when the weather was very similar to that in the winter of 1873-74. Blake & Greeley had several camps on Groundhouse, Apple river and Clam, and had the biggest outfit ever seen up to that time. They intended to put in 10,000,000 feet of logs, but no snow fell until nearly spring, and only 5,000,000 feet was secured. This winter is known among the loggers as the "Blake & Greeley winter." Spring opened early that year and seeding was in full blast in February.

During the closing years of the eighties all the white pine and most of the choice Norway had been harvested in Burnett county. The cry then went up and has been a by-word with lumbermen every winter since that "This will be the last one for logging in the county." But in the early nineties, after an interval of a few years' inactivity in logging operations, the value of Jack pine timber, which had hitherto been considered a worthless commodity, was brought to the attention of the lumbering world. This gave a new lease of life to the lumbering industry of the county, and up to the fall of 1907, when the panic came over the country, there was great activity in logging operations in the county. With the revival from the present depressive prices in lumber will come several years more of logging in the county.

With the going out of the eighties and the advent of 1900 came a new influx of settlers who were firm in the faith that the Jack pine lands, then being stripped of natural timber, contained a value for agriculture. A veritable stream of settlers flocked into the western and northern portions of the county and set resolutely to the task of converting the wilderness into garden spots. While many of these were mere frontier adventurers and came only to strip the homesteads of their timber and to fish and hunt, the large majority are a progressive, intelligent, educated people. The numerous schools that have been erected within the past few years, the stores, roads, telephone companies—of which Burnett county has six at the present time—stand as a monument to the indefatigable energy of these

people. With the beginning of the year 1909 there are no public lands left in the county—unless it be an occasional forty or larger tract of little value.

While the older settled portions of the county were from the very beginning regions of agriculture, the newer portions were held back as farming sections. With the waning of the lumbering industry began the spread of the farming industry to all portions of the county. But the transition from the one to the other has been so gradual that the oldest inhabitant is hardly aware of the new conditions. Diversified farming now occupies the attention of the large majority of the farmers, with the dairy branch of the business in the foreground. Six creameries are located in the county—at Trade Lake, Wood River, Falun, Sirem, Webster and town of Grantsburg. One creamery, located at Atlas, is just over the boundary in Polk county and draws much of its patronage from Burnett farmers. Another creamery at Trade River was disbanded owing to a disagreement among the stockholders of the company. All the creameries located in the county ship from Grantsburg and exported to the eastern markets nearly 9,000 sixty-pound tubs of butter, bringing to the dairy farmers over $160,000.

Although many railroad surveys have been made through Burnett county during the past fifty years, there was at the beginning of the year 1909 but a dozen miles of completed and operated railroad in the county. This is a branch line now owned by the Northern Pacific and was originally the St. Paul & Duluth branch built from Rush City and completed in 1884. Grantsburg, the county seat, is the present terminus of the road. This road is the outcome of a long cherished desire of Hon. Canute Anderson, familiarly known as "the father of Burnett county," whose untiring efforts made it possible for the road to be built. A 7 per cent bond issue of $20,000 was voted by the county, cashed by the state of Wisconsin, and with the proceeds the Rush City branch was financed. In 1878 the grading was done from Grantsburg to the St. Croix river; four years later the grade was made from Rush City to the river; in 1883 the bridge was built across the river at a cost of $20,000, and the first train came to Grantsburg on January 22, 1884. The St. Paul & Duluth Railroad Company finished the road and assumed the bonded indebtedness. Hundreds of people attended the opening of this road, the occasion being made one of jollification. Hon. Canute Anderson made an address of welcome, which was followed by President James Smith of the road. Later the road came into the possession of the present owners. Burnett county is sorely in need of more railroad facilities, the lack of which is greatly retarding its commercial development.

From the day that the first railroad promoter conceived the idea of connecting the head of navigation on the Mississippi with the head of Lake Superior by rail, there has been a constant development of schemes for an "air line," but all of them except one progressed no farther than a survey. This one closed the year of 1908 with 80 miles of completed grade, 100 miles of right of way cleared and plans perfected for the completion of the line within a year. This road, the Twin City & Lake Superior Railway Company, commonly known as The Arrow Line, has profited by all other surveys and will have a track many miles shorter than any of the existing lines, and is so near a tangent that a straight line drawn on the map would be but three miles shorter than the actual road itself. This three miles is lost by being compelled to keep to the west of the Douglas county copper range, a geological formation that has had more to do with keeping railroads out of southern Douglas and Burnett counties than any other one thing.

Half a century ago what was known as the Patton survey developed some of the unsatisfactory conditions. Later another line was run that went through the center of Trade Lake. Had this road been built Burnett would long ago have been one of the most populous counties in the state and the entire political map of the Northwest would have had a much different look. The long talked of Duluth, Red Wing & Southern surveyed its line through Burnett, as also did the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, the Chicago, Burlington & Northern, the Minnesota & Northwestern (now the Chicago Great Western) and the Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie. Other roads made reconnaissances, but the ones named made perfect surveys and for one reason and another failed to go any farther with the work.

A recently passed Wisconsin law prohibiting parallel railroads and requiring all new railroad projects to file with the railroad commission maps, profiles and estimates before a license to construct can be secured, makes impossible the building of another air line and naturally forces the building of other roads into the eastern part of the county if they want to follow a north and south course.

The Arrow Line has progressed so far and its course is so definitely located that its history is a part of the history of the St. Croix valley. Its promoters gathered together all the facts secured by reason of the many other surveys and planned a double track, electrically operated passenger and freight road, thoroughly up-to-date in equipment and construction, and it will enter the St. Croix valley traffic as one of the most perfect railroads of the world. The plan of financing it makes it a road built and owned by the common people, the nearest approach to

a railroad owned by the government of any in the United States. The completion of this road throws open to settlement the entire upper St. Croix valley, which has heretofore been occupied almost exclusively by the woodsman and hunter. It means that within five years the population of that region will increase many hundred per cent.

Many new towns are already being located along the line, and in Burnett county the town of Montgomery has been platted and recorded. It is located near the mouth of Clam river. Several thousand dollars' worth of lots have been sold and building has begun. This is the home of Ed L. Peet, one of the original promoters of the Arrow Line and president of the Wisconsin corporation under which the road is being built in that state.

He was the founder of "The Journal" of Burnett county and gave up his newspaper business to locate on a homestead in the backwoods, where he figured an air line road must eventually run. His guess is likely to prove true and today he is engaged in building up a town which he confidently predicts will be the largest in the entire St. Croix valley.

Burnett county was named after a Prairie du Chien lawyer, whose name was Thomas Pendleton Burnett. Before Burnett county was organized it was a part of Polk. Up to the year 1883 Washburn county was a part of the territory of Burnett. It was organized in 1865 with the following officers, who were appointed by Governor James T. Lewis: County judge, Nimrod H. Hickerson; clerk of circuit court, Canute Anderson; register of deeds, Peter Anderson; treasurer, S. Thompson; sheriff, Martin B. Johnson; district attorney, Jacob Larson. The entire county was then under one town government with Grantsburg as the capital for both town and county. The governor appointed as a board of supervisors Michael Jensen, chairman; Thore Ingebretson and Peter Anderson. They held their first meeting January 24, 1865, and the first election was held November 7, 1865, at the house of Nimrod H. Hickerson. The first house built in Grantsburg was erected by W. H. Peck in the same year the county was organized. The building used for the first court house was a log cabin near Wood River. From there the county records were moved into a house at the corner of Pine street and Broadway, where the postoffice was also later located. This is still in a fair state of preservation and is now used as a residence, being occupied by the writer of this sketch. The first crops were raised in township 39, range 18, by Charles Ayer. All the members of the first board are dead. The first deed to be placed on record in the county was a tax deed from Polk county to Simon Estensen, conveying the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 35, township 38, range 19.

The instrument is dated January 20, 1866, and the tract of land it conveyed is at the present time occupied as a farm by Ed Estensen, son of Simon Estensen.

The county has grown in political development until it now has fourteen towns and the village as separate municipal governments. They are Roosevelt, Dewey, Rusk, Jackson, Blaine, Meenon, LaFollette, Daniels, Lincoln, West Marshland, Wood River, Trade Lake, Anderson, Grantsburg and Village of Grantsburg. One more division will be made at the circuit court session in Grantsburg in February, 1909, when the town of Blaine will be divided, the new town to be known as Swiss. This will give the county fifteen town governments besides the village.

For the most part the population of the county is Scandinavian, the Swedish nationality predominating. This is particularly true of the older settlements. In the newer regions there is more of a mixed population, but nevertheless the Scandinavians outnumber the other nationalities, except in the eastern and northern towns, where the Americans are in the majority. Of late years a number of German families have cast anchor on some of the county's farms, and here and there can be found a lone Frenchman. There is not a single resident in the county of negro extraction nor of any of the oriental races. In 1905 there were 188 Indians in the county.

According to the state census, the county had a population of 9,261 in 1905, an increase of over 23 per cent since 1900. In spite of the fact that the large majority of the people are emigrants from foreign shores, they are liberal spirited, easily adapt themselves to American customs and laws. That the farmers are adapting themselves to modern conditions is attested by the fact that all the telephone companies in the county outside of Grantsburg are owned and operated by farmers. They own and operate a starch factory at the county seat, own and operate all the creameries in the county except one, and have incorporated a farmers' warehouse exchange, which will be in operation soon, and will buy and sell farmers' produce direct from the farms to the retailers in the large commercial centers of the country.

From a partisan standpoint the county has always been strongly Republican. So much so that since 1895—when a wave of populism swept over the county and gathered for a time some of its most prominent and active politicians within its circle—no party organization has been maintained except the Republican, and no tickets have been placed before the voters except those of that party. After one or two defeats Populism waned and has since died out entirely.

The county has been exceptionally free from great calami-

ties. Forest fires have wrought havoc at different times in the frontier sections by destroying timber and devastating the landscape of its natural beauty, but loss of human life has been rare. Only one case is on record where a human life was sacrificed to the fiery element as it swept through the forest with relentless fury. The great fires of 1894 that destroyed Hinckley, Minn., and of which a writer has said that "No power wielded by man could by any possibility have stopped it in its onward course." The depots, hotels, the city public buildings, schools, etc., simply melted down in a few moments, and kegs of nails from the stocks of hardware stores were found one molten mass. The earth and air, the very heavens above men's heads appeared to be on fire. It was only in flight, water or on the train that escape was possible." This conflagration had reached the banks of the St. Croix, had been swept across the watery channel, low in a period of long continued drouth, and had reached the Big Meadows, a few miles to the northeast of Grantsburg. The Big Meadows, a tract of several thousand acres, is low wet land in ordinary seasons. Beds of peat and alluvial accumulations underlie this tract in large areas, and whenever these dry out the danger of fires becomes at once apparent. The Meadows were burning; a crew of fire fighters went from the village to stay the progress of the flames. Heroically they went at their task. One young man was overcome by the smoke and heat. His companion dragged him from his perilous position. He became ill and later lost his reason. A beloved son and neighbor spending his young life in a madhouse was the result of the fire demon's work in this county in 1894. Vast stretches of the Big Meadows were so burned out beneath the surface of the ground that they sank five and six feet into beds of ashes and gave the marshes an appearance akin to that of the Bad Lands of Dakota. Many of the depressions remain to this day.

On June 6, 1906, a cyclone struck the western portion of Burnett county, passing along the St. Croix river on the east side. A strip of country several miles wide and extending through the entire county on the west was stripped of timber, estimated at several million feet. The homes of many settlers were blown literally out of existence, the logs from some of the cabins being carried fully seventy rods. An iron bed rail was carried from one farm home about fifty rods, and some chickens that were on the farm disappeared in the storm and not a feather has ever been seen of them since. An infant and a boy seven years old were pinioned under heavy timbers at another home, but escaped uninjured. No casualties were wrought by the stormy elements except at the home of Ed L. Peet, near the mouth of the Clam. One of his sons had his skull fractured; two

others and Mrs. Peet were internally injured. Mr. Peet's home was totally blown away, but a saw mill not far away was not badly wrecked. A man who passed through the cyclonic disturbance thus described what he observed: "A great fan-shaped cloud could be seen, and as it continued to grow it assumed a more sinister appearance. When the cloud got abreast of us the storm broke and the cloud was lost from view in the maze of green which seemed to fill the entire atmosphere, and in the blinding sheets of rain which made it impossible to see more than a few rods. The very air seemed to be charged with electricity and a crackling noise—like a dreary requiem—accompanied the falling torrents." The oldest inhabitants of the county do not recollect another such an electric disturbance. From the best information obtainable it appears that the first mission in the St. Croix valley was established in Burnett county at the mouth of the Yellow river in 1833. This was established for the purpose of schooling the Indian children in the rudiments of the English language and to give the older natives an insight into the science of making vegetables and corn grow where they had only seen the trees and grasses come forth. Some of the more savage warriors objected to the mission being maintained in their midst, but others were conciliatory and willing to permit the whites to teach them. Not much was accomplished in practical results from the efforts of those who founded this mission, but to this day there is a small remnant of the Indians that infested that section in the early days. They still cling to the Catholic faith and a Father visits them at stated intervals and administers to their spiritual needs. One of the most noted of these Indian survivors is John Matrios, nearly 80 years old and chief of the last Chippewa tribe. In May, 1908, he was taken sick with empyema, a disease rarely known to afflict Indians and one very difficult to combat, and it was not thought that he could survive the shock of the operation necessary to relieve him. But he recovered and is again performing the limited functions as chief of his handful of braves at Dogtown—as the Indian village at Yellow river is now known. Matrios is a veteran of the Civil war and draws a pension. He is married, his squaw being as rugged as he.

The shores of Big Wood lake, now in the center of a veritable garden spot of the county, was picturesque with the tepees of the red men as late as the seventies. Some of these have gone to the happy hunting ground, and others reluctantly yielded up their game preserves and fishing fields to the ever-encroaching plowshare of the white man. The dead of the American Indians were buried in mounds made conspicuous by their elevation and marked with trinkets, weapons or pipes rudely chiseled out of

stone. Several of these mounds are located along the Clam river. Some have been desecrated by the spade of the pale face in his morbid search for Indian bones and relics; others will crumble to the level of the surrounding dust as the chariot of progress crushes over them in its onward march of civilization.

In Burnett county the anti-saloon sentiment is very strong. Only one town in the county has saloons, Blaine, three licensed liquor dispensaries being located there. Spasmodically illicit liquor dispensaries are detected, but of late years only one tragedy has occurred that can be laid directly at the door of this traffic. In May, 1900, two brothers named Bartosh, in the northern part of the county, stabbed each other to death, the result of a drunken debauch for which the whiskey had been obtained in a "blind pig." In the village of Grantsburg saloons have been voted out for three years in succession last past. Previous to that time the saloon and "dry" years would alternate almost successively. The election in the spring of 1908 showed a greater majority against saloons in proportion to the total vote than any previous election.

Robert Davidson, a Scotchman, settled on Clam lake in 1865 and still resides there. A few years after settling on the lake a lumberman, A. M. Chase by name, built a dam at the lower end of the lake, something over two miles from Davidson's farm. This dam overflowed his lands, but he protested in vain against the intrusion of the timber barons who used the dam for driving purposes. Justice through the courts seemed too arduous and uncertain to the plucky frontiersman and he took the law into his own hands. He burned the woodwork of the dam that was above water, was arrested on the charge of arson, given a hearing before Justice Charles Stephenson, bound over to the circuit court and placed in charge of Sheriff Peter Anderson. The following term of circuit court was presided over by Judge Bundy in place of Judge Barron, who was ill. Davidson pleaded not guilty; his case went over the term, and three days later he was let out of jail on bond. When he arrived home the dam had been rebuilt. No one appeared against him at the following term of court and his case was dismissed. Subsequently an order was served on him to show cause why an injunction should not issue restraining him from molesting the dam. A representative of the lumbermen made an agreement with him to pay him for the use of the dam, but the agreement was broken on the part of the loggers and Davidson used dynamite to take out the troublesome dam. On an attachment Davidson was then taken to Grantsburg and held in the custody of Sheriff Charles Wold all summer awaiting the session of circuit court. When that tribunal met Attorney Frank Dorothy, of St. Croix Falls,

appeared in behalf of the dam builders, but on the technicality that Dorothy was not an attorney of that court, on which grounds Davidson objected to the proceeding, Judge Clough dismissed the whole action. Following this legal tangle the sturdy Scot returned home. Shortly afterwards another dam was constructed on the site of the old one and the settler again found his land overflowed. Peaceable negotiations proved futile and as a last resort Davidson took possession of the dam and refused to permit its gates to be lowered. Attorneys were called in to mediate, injunctions were again served, three days too late to be effective, but single handed the pioneer stood his ground and finally compelled the timber magnates to capitulate and pay him his damages. This was a fight extending over a period of more than fifteen years, during which weapons and physical force were often brought into use. But Davidson was invincible and eventually triumphed over his adversaries. He is now about 90 years old and still lives on the farm on Clam lake, enjoying his well-earned quiet and rest.

## CHAPTER LV.

## BURNETT COUNTY.

**The County Seat—Early Days of Grantsburg—Records Destroyed in the Court House Fire—County Buildings—Shipping Facilities—Business Interests—Business Houses and Stores—Churches and Higher Life—Fraternities—Lives of Leading Men.**

Grantsburg is the county seat of Burnett county and the only incorporated village, as well as the largest town. It is located in section 14, township 38, range 19, and was founded by Hon. Canute Anderson in 1865. A flour mill, saw mill, hotel and store were the first enterprises started by him. A court house costing $7,000 was erected, but it burned in 1887, and another one has been built in its place, better than the first. Many of the original records were destroyed in this fire, which makes it a difficult task to ascertain historical data of the county. However, several of the pioneer officials are still in the body, and from them much of the information herein given has been verified. Besides a good court house the county completed in 1902 a handsome brick and stone jail and sheriff's residence, costing $6,000. Grantsburg, having a trading territory of from twenty-five to forty miles on three sides, became at once a prosperous town and several fortunes of no mean proportions have been amassed by her business men. The population, according to the census of 1905, was 705, an increase of nearly 50 per cent since 1890. A large amount of shipping is done from the town, since nearly all the produce grown in the entire county is shipped from here, the only other shipping points being Spooner, Shell Lake and Cumberland, eighteen miles from the northeastern and southeastern portions, and Frederic, within three miles of the southern boundary.

The town has a starch factory owned by farmers, an excelsior mill, a planing mill, a lumber yard, a flour mill, two banks, two newspapers, three resident lawyers, three resident physicians, one first-class hotel, four restaurants, four livery and feed stables, two hardware stores, two jewelers, one drug store, five general stores, two confectionery stores, three blacksmith shops, a real estate office, a dentist, two meat markets, two flour and feed stores, a merchant tailor and two millinery stores. The

town has a good depot with telegraph and express accommodations, and a postoffice that would be a credit to a town several times the size of Grantsburg. Every trade or profession necessary to make an ideal country village is represented. In the number of churches Grantsburg has the reputation of having the largest number for her population of any town in the state. The most costly and newest of these is the English Lutheran, erected at a cost of over $8,000. The others are the Central Methodist Episcopal, Norwegian Methodist Episcopal, Swedish Baptist, Hauge's Norwegian Lutheran, Swedish Lutheran, Swedish Congregational Mission. There is a Catholic congregation, but they have no house of worship.

In fraternal and secret orders the village is equally as well supplied as in the matter of houses of worship. There is an Odd Fellows lodge and Rebekahs, Masonic lodge and Eastern Stars, Modern Woodmen of the World lodge and Royal Neighbors of America, G. A. R. post and Women's Relief Corps, Woodmen of the World, Good Templars, Independent Scandinavian Workingmen's Association, a Union of the American Society of Equity, and a homestead of the Yoemen has just been organized and will be in working order soon.

An attraction that never fails to arouse the curiosity of the stranger in Grantsburg is her "big policeman," whom everybody calls Marshal Gust Anderson. He stands seven feet in his stockings and weighs considerably over 300 pounds. He is not fleshy, but bony, muscular and sinewy, and is said to be the largest police officer in the country. He is a terror to evildoers and good natured as he is large to the law abiding and peacefully inclined.

**The First Bank of Grantsburg** was organized as a private bank February 8, 1906, and opened for business the first of the following March. July 1, 1907, it was incorporated as a state bank. The capital stock of the bank is $25,000; surplus and undivided profits, $8,000. Its total deposits are $285,000 and its total assets are $320,000. The bank owns its own brick building for its banking room. It has a modern, up-to-date equipment with burglar-proof vaults and safe protected by the American Bank Protection burglar alarm system. This bank, backed as it is by strong financial stockholders and a painstaking and careful board of directors and efficient and alert officers, has developed into a strong and substantial banking institution. Bank examiners have spoken of its excellent business management and above all its safe and conservative loaning methods. As an endorsement of its high standing the state of Wisconsin has selected it as one of its government depositories for state funds. Its present officers and directors are: Ole Anderson,

president; Simon Thoreson, vice-president; A. P. Nelson, cashier; L. R. Roberts, assistant cashier; Andrew Peterson and William Anderson, who with the following constitute its stockholders: P. E. Peterson, G. R. Wedin, Th. Olson, N. C. Unseth, A. M. Anderson and J. A. Hickerson estate.

**The First National Bank** of Grantsburg commenced business in May, 1905, as a state bank, converted into the national banking system in the fall of 1906 and holds the national bank charter No. 8,444. The bank has a paid up capital of $25,000; surplus and undivided profits of $3,000. Its officers are: F. H. Wellcome, president; M. Giswold, vice-president; H. A. Anderson, cashier, and Emil Swenson, assistant cashier. The stockholders are: F. H. Wellcome, capitalist; M. Giswold, merchant; H. A. Anderson, cashier; Emil Swenson, assistant cashier; A. E. Nelson, merchant; Larson Bros., merchants; O. Erickson, postmaster; A. W. Luther, hardware merchant; S. E. Jensen, hardware merchant; S. F. Grover, attorney; Otto E. Peterson, farmer; O. A. Johnson, farmer; G. E. Norman, farmer; A. P. Skog, farmer; August Magunson, farmer; Charles E. Sandberg, farmer; Peter Johnson, farmer; Union Investment Company, Minneapolis. From the above list of stockholders it will be seen that this bank is very strong. It is well equipped for the handling of farm loans and makes a specialty of this business, soliciting applications in the better class of that character of loans, confining its output to the well-improved farms upon which the borrower is the occupant.

**Andrew M. Anderson,** liveryman at Grantsburg, was born in Norway, May 12, 1855, son of Peter A. and Anna M. (Jonson) Anderson. His parents came to America in 1860 and homesteaded 160 acres at Grantsburg, broke the land, erected buildings and carried on diversified farming until 1893, when the father moved to Grantsburg village, purchased property and erected several residences. The mother died in August, 1877, and the father married Helen Christopherson, who still survives, Peter A. Anderson having died November 24, 1907. Andrew M. received his education in the schools of Grantsburg and soon after leaving school homesteaded 160 acres, which he sold in 1883 and came to the village of Grantsburg, where he learned the blacksmith trade. Later he purchased some property and built a house and shop. In 1899 he sold this property to Samuel D. Rice and went to Idaho, where he engaged in mining for four years. In 1903 he returned to Grantsburg and opened a livery stable, which he now conducts, making his residence on Broadway. A Republican in politics, he is a member of the Methodist church and affiliates with the Modern Woodmen. Aside from his property in Grantsburg he owns 33,333 shares in the McKin-

ley mine on the Salmon river in Idaho. Mr. Anderson was married, August 9, 1876, to Ella Johnson, daughter of Michael and Carrie (Caren) Johnson, natives of Norway, who located in Polk county. The father died in March, 1908, and the mother is still living. To Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have been born nine children: Alfred P., born February 26, 1879, and died July 24, 1902; Melvin C., born March 18, 1881, and died January 30, 1883; Melvina C., born November 26, 1883, and died April 21, 1908; Agnes J., born March 11, 1886; Elfie L., born February 10, 1889, and died July 13, 1890; Elfie M., born March 26, 1891; Olive M., born January 16, 1894; Amber V., born July 12, 1896, and Wallace W., born November 9, 1898, and died November 15, 1900.

**Charles L. Fisher,** publisher of the "Sentinel" at Grantsburg, was born in Chicago, Ill., December 11, 1878, son of John L. and Ellen Fisher, natives respectively of Ohio and Illinois, and both of German descent. The father was a cigar maker by trade, but upon going to Kankakee, Ill., in 1881 he took up paper hanging and painting, which he still follows. Charles L. Fisher received his education in the public and high schools of Kankakee and for a short time engaged in the news business, after which he learned the printer's trade in the office of the Kankakee "Gazette." In 1899 he came to Grantsburg and homesteaded 160 acres, proved up his claim, broke and improved the land and erected buildings. In May, 1905, he came to the village permanently and purchased an interest in the "Burnett County Sentinel" with A. J. Myrland, taking charge of the mechanical part of the work. December 1, 1908, he leased the plant and became sole proprietor. He is a Republican in politics, but has never cared to seek office, being too busy with his painting duties to mingle in active political affairs. Fraternally Mr. Fisher has achieved considerable local prominence. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen and the Odd Fellows and is at present district deputy to the local lodge. He attends the Methodist church. Mr. Fisher has never been married. He has two sisters and one brother—Logan, of Mason City, Iowa, and Mayme and Mabel, of Kankakee, Ill.

**Virgil E. Hawley,** dealer in hardware, implements, paints, oils and harness goods, was born in Alexandria, Minn., August 15, 1871, son of William B. and Virginia (Sheldon) Hawley, who came to Alexandria, Minn., in 1867, homesteaded 160 acres of land, erected buildings, improved the land and carried on general farming until 1902, when the father sold the farm and retired. He now makes his home at Forado, Minn., his wife having died in April, 1874. Virgil, as Mr. Hawley was then called by his friends, received the usual common school education and then attended the State Normal School at St. Cloud, Minn.

After leaving school he took up teaching in Douglas and Pope counties, continuing for nine years. In 1900 he started bookkeeping for the H. A. LeRoy Hardware Company, of Alexandria, Minn. In 1906 he came to Grantsburg and purchased the hardware stock of A. M. Jensen and began in business for himself. He has been successful, has a rapidly increasing business and carries goods valued at about $6,000. Aside from the stock in the store, he owns a residence in Grantsburg. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church, affiliates with the Yoemen and the Good Templars and votes the Prohibition ticket. Mr. Hawley was married, January 14, 1900, to Elva S. Strang, of Alexandria, daughter of the Hon. G. J. Strang and Sarah (Burgan) Strang, the former of whom served in the Minnesota legislature. Mr. and Mrs. Hawley have one daughter, Grace, born November 24, 1904.

**Perry D. Hickerson,** a veteran of the Civil war, was born in Putnam county, Ohio, December 14, 1838, son of Joseph and Nancy (Frost) Hickerson, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Tennessee. They located in Ohio in the early twenties, settling first in Licking county and then in Putnam county. In the latter county they purchased 160 acres of timber land, which they developed. In 1855 they sold out and moved to River Falls, Wis., where they both died, the father in 1856. Perry D. Hickerson received his education in Ohio and did general work until coming to Wisconsin with his parents. He worked at logging, cooking in camps and rafting on the river until 1862, when he joined the Union army at Sunrise, Minn., enlisting in Company C, Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Burke and Colonel Marshall. He served against the Indians and was present at the skirmish, in which 400 of them were captured, 38 of them being hanged. During these Indian troubles he was wounded in the thigh at Mankato, Minn. He served in many important battles of the Civil war, and upon his discharge returned to Wisconsin and purchased 160 acres at Grantsburg, where he farmed until 1883, when he sold his farm and built a hotel called the Merchants' Hotel. He moved to the village and conducted the hotel until 1901, when he sold out to his daughter and built a home and livery barn. For six years he was deputy sheriff and for two years sheriff of Burnett county. He is a Republican in politics, a Methodist in religion and a member of Garfield Post, No. 49, G. A. R. Mr. Hickerson was married, February 1, 1866, to Mary Anderson, daughter of Peter and Anna Martha (Elison) Anderson, natives of Norway. Mrs. Hickerson was born in Norway, August 4, 1848. Her parents came to America in 1860 and lived in St. Croix Falls and Taylors Falls until coming to Grantsburg in 1863. Here they

purchased 160 acres, which they developed. The mother died in 1876. The father afterward removed to the village and remained until his death in November, 1907. To Mr. and Mrs. Hickerson have been born ten children: Emma, born March 18, 1867, married Elias Pickle; Minnie was born December 25, 1868, and is married; Ella was born July 27, 1870, and died February 8, 1898, being survived by her husband; Sophia was born May 18, 1872, and married John Hoar; Julia was born April 6, 1874, and married first William Welch, and after his death H. E. Smith; Laura B. was born January 19, 1876, and married H. J. Smith; George was born June 29, 1878, and is married; Benjamin was born February 18, 1880, and is married; Albert N., born March 18, 1882, and Roy, born March 19, 1885, was also married.

**Frederick Reinhart Huth** stands high among the newspaper men of the Northwest, and, what is rare in a journalist, combines the ability to wield a ready pen with sound business judgment, having attained success both as an editor and manager. He was born August 21, 1867, in Bloomer, Chippewa county, Wis., of German parents, who upon coming to this country settled in the town adjoining the one where our subject was born, still making their residence on the identical homestead where they first settled. As school facilities were unknown in that section in the early days and American neighbors were few, young Frederick was ten years old before he could speak the language of his native country. In his eleventh year he began attending school, mastered the studies of the country school, then went through a graded school, capping his educational career with a term in the Chippewa Falls High School. He then began his life's work as a school teacher, but soon abandoned this and embarked upon the printing career. Entering the office of the Chippewa Falls "Workman" in 1885, he remained eighteen months, thence going to the Chippewa Falls "Independent." The purchase by the "Independent" of the "Catholic Sentinel" plant left him without a position and he drifted West, spending five years in Moorhead, Minn., and Fargo, N. D. He became identified with the newspaper interests of Fargo. In partnership with C. W. Faust he bought the "Weekly Commonwealth" from E. J. Moore, turned it into the "Daily Evening Commonwealth," becoming its business manager and later its editor. During this connection he took an active part in public affairs, was a member of the Fargo Business Men's Union and of the North Dakota Editorial Association, being one of the executive committee of the latter. "The Commonwealth" under Mr. Huth's editorship took a strong stand against resubmitting the Prohibition question to a vote of the people, against the gambling interests and against the social evils that infested

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the city at that time. In consequence of this opposition he had many warm tilts with the backers of these interests, being at one time warned by a representative of the gamblers that unless "The Commonwealth" desisted in its attacks upon the gamblers "one or the other" would bite the dust. But the paper, undaunted, continued radical in its policy until Mr. Huth severed his connection with it in the fall of 1895. In April, 1895, Mr. Huth was joined in wedlock with Amy Taylor, of Edgerton, Wis., and to this union have been born four children: Winifred, Leroy, June and Fred. After leaving "The Commonwealth" Mr. Huth went with his bride to San Bernardino, Cal., living there three years. Growing infirmities of his parents called him back to Chippewa county in 1899, his intention being to remain on the old homestead. The land fever of that year, however, attracted him to Burnett county and in the fall he filed on a homestead in sections 24-41-14, on the shores of Lost lake, the homestead being known as "The Pines," owing to the picturesque location and its many Norway pines. A first visit to Grantsburg brought back to him "the smell of printer's ink," and while the family occupied the homestead and assisted in opening up a small farm, Mr. Huth devoted part of his time to helping out in the "Journal" office, then under the editorship of Ed L. Peet. Later he became business manager for Mr. Peet, which position he held until December 10, 1904, when he succeeded to the editorship and management of the paper. During the four years that he has been at the head of the "Journel" the paper has been eminently successful and has increased in size, business, patronage and prestige. Besides getting out one of the best weekly papers in the state, Mr. Huth has found time to take much personal interest in the growth and development of Burnett county. He was one of the promoters and is now secretary of the Burnett County Equity Warehouse Exchange, recently incorporated, also a promoter and present secretary of the Farmers' Independent Telephone Company. He is also on the executive committee of the Wisconsin Press Association. Although not a politician in the generally accepted meaning of the word, he takes an active interest in political affairs. He was chosen member of the Republican assembly committee of Burnett and Polk counties at the convention held at Amery, Wis., in 1902. In 1904 he was elected chairman of this committee and presided over the assembly convention held in Luck, Wis., that year. Later he resigned the position. During the primary campaign of 1908 he was strongly urged and persistently mentioned as a Republican candidate for the assembly for the counties of Burnett and Polk, but in a public statement he declined to become a candidate owing to business reasons. Mr. Huth cast his

first vote for James G. Blaine for president of the United States and has always been a progressive Republican.

**Carl Alfred Jacobson,** of the chemical department of the Rockefeller Institute of New York city, is a native of Burnett county, born in Wood Lake, January 25, 1876. His early education was received in the public schools of his native town and during the years of 1894-96 he was engaged as public school teacher in the district schools of Burnett county. In the fall of 1896 he entered Carleton Academy at Northfield, Minn., and two years later Carleton College of the same place. The year 1901-02 he spent in Germany and Great Britain. The degree of Bachelor of Science was granted him by Carleton College in the year 1903 and the degree of Master of Science in 1907. In the fall of 1903 he entered Johns Hopkins University as a graduate student in chemistry. The following three years he was engaged as instructor in chemistry and physiology in the high school at York, Pa. In the spring of 1907 he was granted a state teacher's permanent certificate for the state of Pennsylvania, and the same year was offered a scholarship at Yale University, which he declined in favor of Johns Hopkins University and reentered the latter institution in the fall of the same year, making chemistry his principal study and taking physical chemistry and physics as subordinates. In February, 1908, he was elected a member of the American Chemical Society. In May of the same year he was awarded a fellowship at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, of New York, for the ensuing year. In June, 1908, the degree of Doctor of Philosophy was granted him by the Johns Hopkins University of Baltimore, Md. His research work, published under the title, "The Conductivity and Ionization of Electrolytes in Aqueous Solutions as Conditioned by Temperature, Dilution and Hydrolysis," was carried out in the laboratory of Prof. H. C. Jones. An assistantship was offered him in the department of physical chemistry of Johns Hopkins University for the year 1908-09, but he declined in favor of the Rockefeller Institute of New York. Dr. Jacobson was married June 21, 1906, to Mary Edna Metzger, daughter of Dr. G. W. Metzger, of York, Pa.

**Charles W. Karkau,** secretary and manager of the Burnett County Abstract Company, is one of the well-known citizens of Grantsburg. He is one of the soloists in the Methodist Episcopal church and manager of a lecture course designed to promote the educational interests and to develop the higher life of the community. He is a justice of the peace and in politics is an independent Republican. In fraternal affiliation he is a Modern Woodman. Mr. Karkau was born in Lansing, Mich., October 16, 1884, son of Ludwig and Louise (Schmidt) Karkau, natives

C. W. KARKAU

of Germany who came to America in 1883 and located in Lansing, where the father engaged as foreman in a lumber yard, which position he held about twenty years. He owns a pleasant residence in that city and has attained success in life. Before coming to America he did military service for three years in his native country. Charles W. received his education in the public, high and German parochial schools of Lansing. After leaving school he worked for a short time in his native city and then came to Wisconsin, entering the employ of the Cushing Land Agency at St. Croix Falls as abstracter. After three and a half years in this work he came to Grantsburg as manager for the company with whom he is now employed. In this position he has been most successful.

The Burnett County Abstract Company was incorporated in February, 1906, and work was at once begun on a set of abstract of title records which would be second to none in the St. Croix valley, at least. This work required about one year, and since January 1, 1907, the company has gradually increased its list of patrons through careful and efficient service. During the summer of 1907 the company's capital was doubled and its corporate powers were modified, giving it the right to engage in the real estate business. During the summer of 1908 the company built a neat and substantial brick office building just across the corner from the court house and at present is doing a large business in both the abstract of title and the real estate business. Mr. Karkau was married, July 31, 1907, to Myrtha J. Comer, of St. Croix Falls, Wis., daughter of Andrew and Pauline (Berg) Comer, born December 18, 1886. To this union has been born one daughter, Constance Louise, born July 15, 1908.

**Maurice D. Lonergan,** druggist, proprietor of a drug and jewelry business at Grantsburg, Wis., was born at White Bear Lake, Minn., September 8, 1874, the fourth son of James and Sarah (McGrath) Lonergan.

**James Lonergan** was born in Cashel, Tipperary county, Ireland, November 13, 1837. In 1840 he came to this country with his parents, who settled in Utica, N. Y. Later the family moved to Addison, Wis., where James was educated in the public schools. He also attended the St. Aloysius Academy in Milwaukee. After completing his own school days he taught for several years and December 24, 1862, was appointed first lieutenant in the Thirty-fourth Wisconsin Volunteers by Gov. Edward Salamon. He served with credit during the Civil war. In 1871 he moved to Charles City, Iowa, and in 1873 to White Bear, Minn. With the exception of a short interval, he continued from that date to make his home in White Bear. He was engaged in the railroad business until 1887, when he was ap-

of Germany who came to America in 1883 and located in Lansing, where the father engaged as foreman in a lumber yard, which position he held about twenty years. He owns a pleasant residence in that city and has attained success in life. Before coming to America he did military service for three years in his native country. Charles W. received his education in the public, high and German parochial schools of Lansing. After leaving school he worked for a short time in his native city and then came to Wisconsin, entering the employ of the Cushing Land Agency at St. Croix Falls as abstracter. After three and a half years in this work he came to Grantsburg as manager for the company with whom he is now employed. In this position he has been most successful.

The Burnett County Abstract Company was incorporated in February, 1906, and work was at once begun on a set of abstract of title records which would be second to none in the St. Croix valley, at least. This work required about one year, and since January 1, 1907, the company has gradually increased its list of patrons through careful and efficient service. During the summer of 1907 the company's capital was doubled and its corporate powers were modified, giving it the right to engage in the real estate business. During the summer of 1908 the company built a neat and substantial brick office building just across the corner from the court house and at present is doing a large business in both the abstract of title and the real estate business. Mr. Karkau was married, July 31, 1907, to Myrtha J. Comer, of St. Croix Falls, Wis., daughter of Andrew and Pauline (Berg) Comer, born December 18, 1886. To this union has been born one daughter, Constance Louise, born July 15, 1908.

**Maurice D. Lonergan,** druggist, proprietor of a drug and jewelry business at Grantsburg, Wis., was born at White Bear Lake, Minn., September 8, 1874, the fourth son of James and Sarah (McGrath) Lonergan.

**James Lonergan** was born in Cashel, Tipperary county, Ireland, November 13, 1837. In 1840 he came to this country with his parents, who settled in Utica, N. Y. Later the family moved to Addison, Wis., where James was educated in the public schools. He also attended the St. Aloysius Academy in Milwaukee. After completing his own school days he taught for several years and December 24, 1862, was appointed first lieutenant in the Thirty-fourth Wisconsin Volunteers by Gov. Edward Salamon. He served with credit during the Civil war. In 1871 he moved to Charles City, Iowa, and in 1873 to White Bear, Minn. With the exception of a short interval, he continued from that date to make his home in White Bear. He was engaged in the railroad business until 1887, when he was ap-

pointed village marshal, a position which he held for eight years. Upon his retirement he was elected justice of the peace and presided over the White Bear police court from that date until he was stricken with paralysis. In 1887 he was appointed on the board of education and continued in that position until his death, serving several terms as president of the board. He was also a member of the public library board. For many years he was a devout member of the Catholic church of St. Mary of the Lake, of which he was treasurer two decades. He was also an officer and member of the E. B. Gibbs post, G. A. R. Mr. Lonergan was married January 24, 1866, to Sarah McGrath, at Germantown, Wis. Mrs. Sarah Lonergan was born in Germantown, Wis., July 15, 1847, her parents being John and Mary McGrath. She received her education in the public and parish schools of her native place and at the early age of fifteen years began her career as a teacher, teaching in Dodge and Washington counties. She died September 13, 1892. At the time of his death, October 7, 1906, Mr. Lonergan left seven sons and two daughters: David L., of Minneapolis; John V., of St. Paul; James E., of Deadwood, S. D.; Maurice D.; Charles R., of Ashland, Wis.; Mary E., of St. Louis, Mo., and Frank, Margaret and Paul, of White Bear, Minn. Maurice D. Lonergan attended the public schools in his native village until thirteen years of age, when, being of an independent spirit and anxious to make his own way in the world, he secured a position as apprentice in a local drug store. By dint of hard work and study after business hours he succeeded after three and a half years in not only acquiring a good general education, but also in passing the Minnesota State Board of Pharmacy examination, being the youngest person ever granted a certificate in the state of Minnesota. He spent the following year in St. Paul as prescription clerk in a pharmacy, leaving that position to accept an appointment as steward of the Northern Pacific Hospital at Brainard, Minn. He removed to Wisconsin in 1892 and was employed at his profession in Green Bay, Antigo and Rhinelander, coming to Grantsburg in March, 1896, where he clerked in the drug store of Thomas Olson until February 1, 1898, when he assumed the management of the Saunders drug store. In September, 1899, in company with J. E. Burgan, he purchased the business which was conducted under the name of Lonergen and Burgan until April 1, 1904, when he bought out his partner's interest. He has continued as sole proprietor ever since. During the same month he purchased the building in which his store was located, also the building next door, on both of which he has made many substantial improvements. In December, 1905, he purchased the drug and jewelry stock of N. C. Unseth and con-

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solidated it with his own, giving him a large drug and jewelry store. He retained Mr. Unseth as manager of his jewelry department. He owns a home in the village and is a prominent member of the Masons, Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen. Mr. Lonergan was married January 3, 1900, at Osceola, Wis., to Ruth H. Burdick, of Spring Valley, Wis., daughter of Orlando and Melissa Burdick. The former is dead and the latter resides in the village of Spring Valley. Mrs. Ruth Lonergan was born November 3, 1875, and her union with Mr. Lonergan has been blessed with two children: Virgil E., born December 21, 1900, and Bernice L., born March 30, 1902. Mr. Lonergan is independent in politics and always having given closest attention to the details of his business, has never sought after or served in public office.

**Peter Lidbom,** deceased, was born in Sweden, April 7, 1864, and came to America in 1880. His parents are still living, making their home in Osceola township, Polk county, where they homesteaded 160 acres which they broke and improved. Peter Lidbom, on coming to this country located for a time in Osceola, working on the railroad. Later he took up barbering and shoemaking, which he followed until within a short time of his death, when he engaged in the restaurant business. He was an attendant of the Baptist and Lutheran churches, and in politics was a Republican. At one time he served as marshal of Grantsburg. He affiliated with both the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen. His death, November 20, 1896, was a severe loss to his friends and relatives. Mr. Lidbom was married April 7, 1884, to Augusta Anderson, of Grantsburg, daughter of August and Lina (Adelberg) Anderson, natives of Sweden, who came to America in 1870 and homesteaded 160 acres in Grantsburg. The father died in 1897 and the mother July 4, 1885. To Mr. and Mrs. Lidbom were born seven children: Ralph married Winnie Collins; Raynold, Frank R., Amy V. (deceased), Elmer C., Violet (deceased), Violet R. Since Mr. Lidbom's death, Mrs. Lidbom has successfully engaged in the hotel and restaurant business in Grantsburg.

**August John Myrland** is a native of Norway, born at Sellevold, Andoen, January 15, 1861, son of Ole S. Olson Myrland and Othine (Sellevold) Myrland. The father was born in the city of Bergen in 1833, the mother at Andoen in 1835. His maternal grandfather, Aug. Joh. Sellevold, was a prominent man in northern Norway and served for six years as a member of the Norwegian parliament (Storthing). In the summer of 1866 A. J. came to this country with his parents and settled in Primrose, Dane county, Wis. Here his father became the owner of eighty acres of wild land and on it the boy grew up, grub-

bing, clearing, breaking and doing any and all kinds of farm work. Winters were usually spent in attending the rural schools until the age of sixteen, and from that time he worked either on his father's farm or for other farmers, and lastly in a country store. Mr. Myrland's father was a man of considerable education and owned a library in the Norwegian language, and in this manner the boy became acquainted with the history of almost every nation of the world and the literature of the Scandinavian countries before he learned the English langauge, and here was also born in him the desire for an education. Lack of funds prevented the consummation of this wish until he had reached his majority. Then he left home to attend Milton college, Milton, Wis., where he spent two years, supporting himself by sawing wood, doing chores and working in a nursery near town. One year spent in teaching country schools gave him enough money to enter the University of Wisconsin in the fall of 1885. Here he earned money by being steward of a boarding club and working afternoons in the university gymnasium. The school year of 1887-1888 he spent in teaching country and village schools and with the money so earned he returned to the university in the fall of 1888, and by again running a boarding club he was enabled to finish his course in June, 1890, with the degree of bachelor of letters. At the university A. J. was a prominent figure and had a host of friends. As a member of the Hesperian Literary Society he won considerable reputation as a debater, being a member of both the freshmen and sophomore teams. In his junior year he was chosen treasurer and in his senior year president of the society. Of Nora Samlag, the Scandinavian Literary Society, he was repeatedly the presiding officer. In the military battalion he rose to ranking captain. In athletics he was for two years on the managing board of student athletics, and in the senior year manager of the university baseball club, which won the pennant in the Western College League. In 1889 he was one of the editors of the university paper, and was for two terms president of his class. In the fall of 1890 Mr. Myrland became principal of the high school at Belleville, Wis., which position he held for five years. His greatest strength as a teacher was his faculty of getting the most possible work out of his students and his ability to inspire them to go to higher institutions of learning to finish their education. While at Belleville he served the people one year as village clerk and three years as secretary of the free library board, and was sent in 1894 as a delegate to the Dane county Republican convention. The school work, while congenial to him, was too exhausting and in the fall of 1895 he entered the University of Wisconsin Law school, second year class, and con-

tinued there until October, 1896. This course and study during the summer enabled him to pass the state examination for admission to the bar, standing fifth in a class of thirty-two. While in the law school he was a prominent member of the Forum, treasurer of the University Republican club and one of the delegates of that club to the National Republican College League convention, held in Chicago in April, 1896. After his admission to the bar he spent two weeks on the stump for McKinley. After spending a few months at Glenwood academy, Glenwood, Minn., as a teacher of languages, history and civics, he came to Grantsburg in February, 1897, and began the practice of law. He was so successful as attorney for the defense in criminal cases that in the fall of 1898 he was elected district attorney of the county. Being denied a renomination in 1900 he ran independent and won. Until the fall of 1908 he was re-elected without opposition. Then certain interests put up a hard fight against him, but without success and he was elected to serve a sixth term. From 1897 until 1906 he was also village attorney, and has been clerk of the village school board since 1898. He has repeatedly been delegate to county conventions, was delegate to and secretary of the senatorial convention in 1898, delegate to the assembly convention in 1898, 1900 and 1902, being presiding officer of the first two and chairman of the committee on resolutions of the last. In 1904 he was a delegate to the eleventh congressional convention at Spooner, Wis., and chairman of the committee on resolutions. In 1900 and 1902 he was a delegate to the Republican state convention, taking an active part in the deliberations of that body. In 1901 he purchased an interest in the Burnett County "Sentinel" and was until December 1, 1908, its managing editor. In February, 1903, Governor Robert M. LaFollette appointed Mr. Myrland regent of the University of Wisconsin, he being the first Norwegian ever appointed to that position, and this office he held until January, 1907. On this board he served as chairman of several important committees and at the annual election of officers in June, 1906, he was elected vice president of that body. Mr. Mryland has also been interested in various business enterprises, being one of the founders of the Farmers' Starch Manufacturing Company, serving as its secretary from 1900 until 1905, and since that time as its president. He was also one of the incorporators of the Burnett County Abstract Company and is a member of its board of directors. Fraternally he is a member of the I.O.O.F., M.W.A. and the I. S.W.A. In church matters he devoutly recognizes the fatherhood of God and the spiritual leadership of Jesus, but subscribes to the formula of no particular creed, believing that all creeds have more or less of the truth in their

doctrines, but that all the truth is vouchsafed to no particular denomination. On August 12, 1890, Mr. Myrland married Lena B. Anderson, of Perry, Dane county, Wis., and to them have been born Arthur L., Ruth H., Otto E., James C. and Mina M. James died in infancy, the others are at home. Arthur is a graduate of the Grantsburg High school and is engaged in teaching country schools, the others are attending school.

**Adolphus P. Nelson,** is not only one of the leading citizens of Grantsburg, but also has the distinguished honor of being one of the members of the board of regents of the University of Wisconsin. Mr. Nelson's career has been one of hard work and successful accomplishment since earliest boyhood. Unlike the majority of the leading men of this section who came in from other localities, Mr. Nelson is a native of this part of the country, having been born in Douglas county, Minnesota, March 28, 1872, son of Nels A. and Stena Nelson. He attended the district schools and remained on a farm until he was sixteen years of age. At that age he entered the high school, making his way by teaching in the autumn and spring time and was graduated in 1892. Even thus early his ability and perseverance received recognition, and he was the valedictorian of his class. During the last year of his high school work, the year before he entered college, he was bookkeeper in the Douglas county bank, finishing his last year's high school work without spending a day in the school room. He pursued his studies after banking hours and in the evenings. In the fall of 1893, Mr. Nelson entered Hamline university. He worked his way through the university by taking a position as cashier of the bank of Hamline. In June, 1897, he received his degree of A. B., being at the time of graduation president of the senior class, president of the lecture course and president of the Philomathean Literary Society. In August, 1897, Mr. Nelson married Lulu E. Strang, daughter of Hon. George J. Strang, of Alexandria. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson had one daughter, Constance Elva, who was killed in an elevator accident in 1902. In March, 1896, he came to Grantsburg and organized the First bank of Grantsburg, became its cashier and has held that position ever since. During his residence here he has held many positions of trust and honor. He was president of the Business Men's Association from 1900 to 1906; treasurer of the Farmers' Starch Company from 1900 to 1906; is now and has been secretary and treasurer of the Hickerson Roller Mill Company since 1897; secretary and treasurer of the Grantsburg Land and Realty Company since 1902; secretary and treasurer of the Burnett County Abstract Company since 1906; treasurer of the village school board since 1905 and member of the village council since 1900 to 1907. In 1904 he was elected a

lay delegate to the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, held in Los Angeles, Cal., and in 1908 to the general conference at Baltimore, Md. He has been president of the Laymen's Association of the West Wisconsin conference of the Methodist Episcopal church since 1904 and was elected trustee and treasurer of the superannuated preachers' fund of the West Wisconsin conference of the Methodist Episcopal church in 1896. In 1904 he was elected a director in the North American Casualty Company of Minneapolis, and is still a member of that board. In January, 1906, he was appointed a regent of the University of Wisconsin. Fraternally Mr. Nelson is a member of the Masonic order, Woodmen of World and M. A. W. He is a man of recognized ability and has achieved his phenomenal business success through his individual efforts. He is a man of excellent character and his many staunch friends throughout the state have accorded him the place of a leader. He is an orator of marked ability and is always in demand for addresses and speeches for public occasions.

**Andrew Nelson,** local manager for the Burnett County Lumber Company, is a native of Sweden, born October 19, 1868, son of Nels Anderson and Mary Pearson, who still reside in Sweden. Andrew Nelson received his education in the public schools of his native land and came to America, May 3, 1888, locating first at Minneapolis and then at Duluth. In 1890 he came to Grantsburg, following lumbering for ten years, and subsequently clerked for several years, after which he accepted his present position. He has faithfully performed all the duties devolving upon him in a capable manner and his services have been appreciated by his employers and by his fellow citizens who have dealings with him. Mr. Nelson is a Republican in politics, belongs to the Lutheran church and affiliates with the Odd Fellows. He has never sought or desired public office. Mr. Nelson was married June 10, 1903, to Selma Blomgren, daughter of Gust and Lena Blomgren, natives of Sweden. To this union a child was born September 7, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson live in a pleasant residence in the village, which Mr. Nelson owns. The home is well furnished and the Nelsons are noted for the hospitality to their friends. Mr. Nelson is a hard working man and can always be relied upon under all circumstances.

**Peter E. Peterson,** furniture and implement dealer and undertaker, has served as a member of the village board and holds stock in the First National Bank of Grantsburg; the Burnett County Land and Abstract Company and the Grantsburg Starch Factory. He is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Lutheran church. Mr. Peterson was born in Sweden, May 8, 1842, son of Peter Pearson and Anna Goldsmith, the former of

whom died in 1849 and the latter in 1892. Peter received his education in his native country and followed farming until sixteen years of age, when he learned three trades, those of carpenter, wagon-maker and cabinet-maker. In 1872 he came to America and lived at Boston, Mass., two years, afterward moving to Trade Lake, Wis., where he remained about one year. In 1875 he came to Grantsburg and followed cabinet making winters and carpentering summers until 1881, when he built a gristmill at Wood River, Wis., which he conducted for fifteen years. He also conducted a feed, furniture and hardware store, and lumber yard. He afterward disposed of his lumber yard and the hardware business and now, in partnership with his son Andrew, runs a furniture and implement business in connection with undertaking. He owns the Antler Hotel block and also a comfortable home in the village. Mr. Peterson was married in Sweden to Sophia L. Larson, by whom he has had three children: Andrew, born in 1866; Emma and Mary.

**Capt. Samuel D. Rice,** veteran of two wars, was born in Warren, Ohio, March 23, 1835. He received a common school education and after leaving school began dealing in horses. In 1848, while a teamster near Detroit, Mich., he enlisted in the Mexican war. After being mustered out he went to Lapeer county, Indiana, still dealing in horses and doing some farming. In 1853 he followed the same occupations in Indiana, remaining until 1859, when he went to Kankakee, Ill., and remained until 1862, when he joined the Union army at Wilmington, Ill., serving in Company F, Sixty-fourth Illinois, First Battalion, Yates' Sharpshooters. Among his superior officers were Colonel Williams and Major General Reynolds. At the battle of Corinth Mr. Rice was wounded in the right foot and was discharged in 1863. Returning to Kankakee he resumed his former occupation, continuing until 1865, when he removed to Trade River, Burnett county, engaging in the farming and hotel business. In 1887 he came to the village of Grantsburg and opened a livery barn. This he discontinued in 1900 and now conducts a feed and hitch stable only. Mr. Rice has succeeded in life and now owns a pleasant home and also the stables, all being located on Main street. He votes the Republican ticket, belongs to the Methodist church and affiliates with the G. A. R. post at Grantsburg. His public service has included terms as side supervisor and school clerk in Anderson township, and justice of the peace and village marshal in Grantsburg. Captain Rice was married July 4, 1859, to Malvina Monto, of Canada. She died November 17, 1888. To Mr. and Mrs. Rice were born five children: Daniel (deceased), Mary, Nettie, Daniel (deceased) and Ruth. Daniel was killed by a bear in British Columbia. Mr. Rice is a good

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neighbor and good citizen, and is respected by those who know him.

**Marion L. Robey, M. D.,** physician and surgeon, was born in Romney, Hampshire county, W. Va., March 12, 1855, son of William H. and Nancy Robey, natives of West Virginia. The father, who was a Baptist clergyman, died April 18, 1881, at River Falls, Wis., and the mother died in the same village, August 27, 1906. Marion, as he was then familiarly called by his friends, received his education in the public schools of Ellsworth, Wis., and in the State Normal school at River Falls, Wis. He was graduated from the Rush Medical college at Chicago, February 16, 1886, and engaged in his profession at Grantsburg. He is a hard working and conscientious physician, and takes a deep interest in all the latest developments along the lines of his chosen profession. For many years he has been health officer and for a dozen or so years has been the United States pension examiner in his district. A Democrat in politics, he has served on the village board with much credit to his ability. The Episcopal church claims his religious fidelity and he affiliates with the Masons and the Odd Fellows. Dr. Robey was married March 21, 1881, to Virna D. Ridgman, of Bay City, Wis. Her father now lives in Grand Rapids, Mich., and the mother died in June, 1905, natives respectively of England and Ohio. Mrs. Robey died June 27, 1900. To Dr. and Mrs. Robey have been born six children: Milton Clark was born May 5, 1882, and died February 27, 1893; Edna B. was born May 26, 1885, and married Albert Hardy, of Red Wing, Minn.; Dell E. and Allen L. were born March 9, 1889, and the latter died April 7 of the same year; Foss was born November 10, 1891, and died November 27 of the same year. Donovan O., born November 9, 1892, lives at home and attends the Grantsburg schools.

**Charles H. Saunders,** who combines horse raising with several other industries, was born in Parkers Prairie, Minn., July 16, 1872, son of Jake and Christine Saunders, natives of Vermont. The parents came west in 1845 and located in Marine, Minn., where the father was cook in a hotel. He was also a farmer in Osceola and a cook for steamboats on the St. Croix river. In 1871 he went to Parkers Prairie, Minn., and engaged in farming, hunting and trapping. He died at Parkers Prairie and the mother ended her days in 1879. Charles H. Saunders received his education at Parkers Prairie, and then went to Oregon, following the life of a cowboy on a ranch for seven years For four years he bought horses and shipped them to eastern points. He then came to Grantsburg and continued buying, selling and shipping horses. Later he was foreman and head salesman for Barrett & Zimmerman, of Minneapolis. Subse-

quently he went to Duluth as manager of a stable there, again returning to Grantsburg, September 15, 1891, still continuing to deal in horses. He also conducted a drug store, a restaurant, a blacksmith shop, a harness shop, a shoe shop, a sale barn and livery stable. Later he sold the drug and restaurant business and still conducts the others, as well as carrying on logging, lumbering and farming. He owns an aggregate of 1,300 acres in Burnett county, the land being divided into eight farms, all of which Mr. Saunders works. He also owns 863 acres of land in Minnesota and a corner lot with buildings in Parker Prairie village. At Yakima, Wash., he owns 380 head of the "seven dot" brand of horses, and also keeps eighty-four head of the same horses in Grantsburg. Mr. Saunders is a Republican in politics and is now sheriff of the county of Burnett, having previously served a term as deputy sheriff. He is a member of the Lutheran church and affiliates with the Odd Fellows and the Masons. Mr. Saunders was married July 19, 1908, to Hannah Halverson, of Grantsburg, daughter of Thomas Halverson, of that village. Mr. Saunders has achieved success in life and is constantly adding to his already large possessions.

## CHAPTER LVI.

## CHISAGO COUNTY.

**Origin of Its Name—Early Settlement at the Falls—French Traders—Early Settlers—First Mill Erected—First Crops—Judges of Early Elections—First County Commissioners—Dalles of the St. Croix.**

Chisago county takes its name from its largest and most beautiful lake. In its original, or aboriginal, form it was Kichi-sago, from two Chippawa words, "kichi," large, and "saga," fair or lovely. This lake has fifty miles of meandering shore line, with no swamps or marsh borders. In the early days the Indians who dwelt thereabouts, and who seemed to possess an appreciation of nature's beauties, spoke of it in words meaning beautiful, connected with "kego," which means fish. These people brought in fish and maple sugar and later, when the whites began to locate in that vicinity—a large majority of them Swedes—an effort was made to have the lake christened "Swede lake," but this was opposed by another class, and the name today is Chisago.

Taylors Falls and St. Croix Falls, though located in different states, with a river running between them, have much that is common in their early history. Joseph R. Brown, the early pioneer, was in Taylors Falls about as soon, or perhaps sooner, than anybody. Frank Steele says he found him there in 1837, engaged in business. There are evidences of settlement in that vicinity by white men long previous to that date. It is claimed that the French built a fort on the plateau below the Dalles some time between 1700 and 1703. This was called Fort St. Croix. Not far from Taylors Falls, in 1851, there were discovered the ruins of a prehistoric settlement, the foundations of nine houses being distinctly visible. Over some of them trees two feet in diameter were growing. These foundations of rock enclosed spaces ranging in size from twenty to thirty feet, with the hearth containing ashes underlying the debris of ages, on smooth hearthstones showing years of service, probably a century old. These were the homes undoubtedly, of a civilized people, and may give support to the claim that the first improvements made by the whites in Minnesota were at Taylors Falls.

Joseph R. Brown proved only a transient resident of that

section. He only stayed long enough to cut 200,000 feet of pine logs from the present site of Taylors Falls, when he left. These were the first pine logs cut in the St. Croix valley.

In 1838 a French trader, Robinet, came to the Falls followed by Jesse Taylor, who had lived at Fort Snelling, engaged in mason work. In August of that year he took a claim on the west side of the river and induced Benjamin F. Baker to join him in procuring building material and after buying out Robinet, Baker and Taylor commenced making improvements, building a log house, a blacksmith shop, a mill, and mill race, etc. They also built piers and a wing dam. Mr. Baker named the place Baker's Falls, and the settlement Taylors Place. But when the town was platted, in 1850, it was called Taylors Falls. The work progressed slowly, and in 1840 Mr. Baker died, and in 1843 Mr. Taylor sold the unfinished mill to parties in Osceola, and everything movable was taken to that place. The log cabin remained and was occupied by Mr. Taylor for eight years, accomplishing nothing except to fix his name to the place. Since that time the old log house has been used as a store, a boarding house, a warehouse, a church, a schoolhouse and as a stable. In 1854 Jesse Taylor sold his claim to Joshua L. Taylor for $200. In that year Jerry Ross and Benjamin T. Otis commenced farming near there, raising potatoes and garden vegetables, and also built houses. This was the first cultivation of the soil in Chisago county. In 1848 J. L. Taylor built a pre-emption shanty, and proved up on his claim in 1849. Other settlers came in, and at an election held November 26 six votes were cast in the settlement. In 1850 W. F. Colby and W. H. C. Folsom took up claims in that vicinity.

Judges of election were appointed April 2, 1850, within the present limits of Chisago county: St. Croix Falls precinct, William F. Colby, William Holmes and N. C. D. Taylor; Rush Lake precinct, Levi Clark, Walter Carrier and Richard Arnold. In October following Ansel Smith and John H. Ried were elected justices of the peace. The first survey of the town was made in 1851. About this time the county was organized from the northern part of Washington county. The name "Chi-sa-ga" was proposed by W. H. C. Folsom, which after much opposition was adopted but the legislature in passing the bill for the county organization, by a clerical or typographical error, changed the last "a" in "saga" to "o," which having become the law was never changed.

At an election, October 14, 1851, county commissioners were chosen: Samuel Thomson, chairman; N. C. D. Taylor, Thomas F. Norton; clerk of board and register of deeds, F. W. Abbott; treasurer, W. H. C. Folsom. Twenty-three votes were cast.

January 5, 1852, the county commissioners designated the town of Taylors Falls as the county seat. In 1861 the county seat was removed to Chisago City, but this not proving satisfactory it was removed by vote of the people to Center City in 1876.

## DALLES OF THE ST. CROIX.

At the head of navigation, just before reaching Taylors Falls, the river flows between ledges of trap rock, varying in height from fifty to two hundred feet, for the most part perpendicular, but wildly irregular, as is common in trap rock formations. These ledges are crowned with pine trees and a dense undergrowth of bushes and vines. The formation is known as "The Dalles." Whatever the origin of these rocks, it is conceded that they were once plastic, at which time this region could not have been considered a desirable place of residence. And although the foundations today seem solid and to all appearances, everlasting, there is the ever-present possibility of a recurrence of the upheaval which once visited the locality. The Dalles proper are about one mile in length, and the river varies in width from 150 to 300 feet. Two weird objects on the bluff below the lower landing, called the "Devil's Pulpit" and the "Devil's Chair," attract the attention of tourists. The "Devil's Chair" is a conspicuous object, about 120 feet above the river. Probably the most remarkable curiosity, however, may be seen on the bench or the middle of the plateau of the Dalles, quite appropriately styled "The Wells." These are great openings in the rock, varying in width from a few inches to thirty or forty feet, the deepest being from twenty to twenty-five feet, seemingly having been formed by the action of water on pebbles or boulders, much as "pot-holes" are now being formed in the rocky bottom of running streams.

Potato raising is an important industry in Chisago county, which is sometimes called the "great potato belt." The reputation of the county as a potato section was known as far back as the '80s, when large fields of potatoes were already under cultivation. Almost incredible stories of the North Branch potato crops were told even at that early time. Fortunes are said to have been made in a year. North Branch sprang into existence at once as an important potato market. Potato cultivation became epidemic in the county and the farmers still keep up the reputation gained over a quarter of a century ago. Much of the land is peculiarly adapted to potato culture, much more to dairying. The county has a fine and complete coöperative creamery which turns out a quality of butter that stands high as a product of excellence and superiority. The grazing lands lying in the eastern and northern portions of Chisago county

are rich in butter-producing qualities and the farmers have learned to keep none but the healthiest and very best cows. Good dairy farms, which were valued at about $20 per acre a few years ago now bring from $35 to $50 per acre. These two occupations, dairying and potato raising, are the leading industries.

The schools of the county rank well with the other country schools of the state. Good, comfortable school buildings mark every district in the county, many of which have quite extensive libraries and well appointed apparatus. There is no excuse for lack of good education on the part of any pupil in the county and it can be obtained within the county limits. Many of the pupils, however, continue their education in the different universities and higher schools of the state and they show in the high marks of merit they receive, the excellence of their home county training.

Chisago county is composed of the following towns and villages: Rush City, Rushseba, Nessel, Harris, Fish Lake, Branch, North Branch village, Amador, Lent, Stacy village, Wyoming, Wyoming village, Sunrise, Chisago Lake, Lindstrom village, Chisago Lake village, Center City village, Franconia, Shafer and Taylors Falls. The people are thrifty and nearly all own their own farms.

## CHAPTER LVII.

## CHISAGO COUNTY.

**Amador—Branch—Center City—Chengwatana—Chisago Lake—Chisago City—Fish Lake—Franconia—Harris—Lent—Lindstrom—Mission Creek—Nessell—North Branch—Royalton—Rock Creek—Rush City—Rush Seba—Sunrise—Stacy—Shafer.**

**Amador** township was organized in 1858. Thornton Bishop, the first settler, came in 1846 and located a farm on the banks of the St. Croix river at the head of the rapids. Richard Arnold settled on Amador prairie in 1854 and was followed by James P. Martin, Carmi P. Garlick and others. Garlick was a practicing physician, but engaged in other work. He built a steam sawmill, made other improvements and even laid out the village of Amador. The first supervisors of the township were C. P. Garlick, Richard Arnold and James P. Martin. A postoffice was established in 1857 with Henry Bush as postmaster. Thornton Bishop raised the first crops in the township. The first marriage was that of Charles S. Nevers and Mary Snell by John Winans, justice of the peace, February 23, 1860.

**Henry Bush** had a small farm at the mouth of the Deer creek and built a large public house, two stories high. This house burned down. He also established a ferry across the St. Croix. He had a large family of bright boys who loved the woods, and they roamed the forests freely until one of the number was lost. The rest of the boys came home as usual, but of the child they could give no account. The parents were distracted and searching parties were organized. The search proved fruitless. A year later the bones of the missing boy were found several miles away beside a log where the little fellow had doubtless perished of starvation and exposure after becoming bewildered by the density of the forests.

**Thornton Bishop** was a native of Indiana, came to St. Croix Falls in 1841 and married Delia Wolfe, a well-educated half-breed, in 1842. He located in Amador in 1846 and after farming for some time here, went to Sunrise. In 1880 he moved to Kettle River station. For many years he was one of the commissioners of Pine county.

**William Holmes** came to Amador and settled on a farm at the

head of the rapids in 1848. He married a sister of Mrs. Thornton Bishop. In 1852, Mr. Holmes removed to Sunrise and thence to Trade River, Wis., in 1875. He was taken ill, and was cared for at the home of Mr. Bishop until he died, in May, 1876.

**James M. Martin** was one of the first settlers in Amador. He came originally from Amador, where he was married. He died July 17, 1887.

**Branch** township was set off from Sunrise and organized in 1872. The first supervisors were William Winston, Peter Delamater and Frank Knight. A postoffice was established in 1869 with George W. Flanders as postmaster. The Sunrise river flows through the township from west to east.

## CENTER CITY.

Center City has a population of 350; county seat of Chisago county, on the Northern Pacific railroad. It has a state bank with a capital of $25,000; a planing mill, sawmills, a grain elevator, marble works, a starch factory, two hotels, Northern Express office, telegraph office, dealers in lumber, wood and coal and all kinds of building material; dealers in hardware, stoves, ranges, carpets, wall paper, etc. It has two marble and granite works, jeweler, two general stores, photograph gallery, drug store, blacksmith shop and carriage makers, also a Lutheran church and a district school. The village was platted in May, 1857, Andrew Swenson, proprietor, and Alex. Cairns, surveyor. The court house was built in 1876 at a cost of $5,000. During the Indian outbreak in 1862, the period of uncertainty as to the probable attitude of the Chippewa Indians, the people of Chisago Lake built breastworks for protection on the isthmus connecting Center City with the mainland, and planted cannon upon them for defense. The remains of these old fortifications may still be seen. Among the men prominent in Center City in the early days were Andrew Swenson, John S. Van Renssalaer, Axel Dahliam, Nels Nord, John A. Hallberg, Charles A. Bush, Lars Johan Stark, Frank Mobeck, Robert Currie and Andrew N. Holm, whose original name, Andrew Nelson, was changed by the legislature.

**Alfred P. Stolberg,** attorney at law, was born in Fish Lake, Chisago county, December 4, 1876, son of Judge P. H. Stolberg, who is district judge of the nineteenth judicial district and resides at Harris, in this county. Alfred P. Stolberg received his education in the public schools of Harris and Taylors Falls, and then received his A. B. degree at the Gustavus Adolphus college at St. Peter, Minn., graduating from that college in 1899. He then registered in the law department of the State university and was graduated in 1902, being at once admitted to the bar,

after which he entered his father's office at Harris and remained with him for about seven months. January 1, 1903, he assumed the duties of the office of register of deeds, having been elected to that office during the previous autumn. He served in that office for three terms and in the fall of 1908 was nominated and elected county attorney on the Republican ticket. For the past two years he has been president of the village council of Center City. Mr. Stolberg was married June 12, 1906, to Laura J. Nelson, of Center City. She was born in Center City, daughter of Peter and Johanna (Swenson) Nelson. Mr. Nelson, who is now deceased, was an early settler of Center City and served during the Civil War in the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. His widow is still living at Center City. Mrs. Stolberg was educated in the public schools of her native city and was graduated from the St. Cloud Normal school in 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Stolberg belong to the Swedish Lutheran church, and both occupy an important place in the social and public life of the village.

**Henry A. Swenson,** county surveyor, was born at Chisago City, Minn., July 12, 1857, and was educated in the public schools of his native township, the grammar schools of Taylors Falls, Minn., and at Carlton college, Northfield, Minn. Like other boys of his period he helped on the farm during his school days. From 1874 to 1876, while still in his teens, he taught school in Chisago and Isanti counties and for a part of two years, 1877-78, was clerk in the office of the state superintendent of public instruction. He then worked in the engineering department of the St. Paul & Duluth railroad as assistant chief engineer, from 1881 to 1890. He was in the real estate business at West Superior, now Superior, Wis., from 1890 to 1892, and a part of this time was government inspector of the harbor improvements at Superior. In 1893-95 he engaged in private engineering and surveying in Chisago and adjoining counties. From 1896 to 1902 he was assistant engineer for the Great Northern, Great Western, St. Paul & Duluth and Northern Pacific railroads and the St. Paul Union Depot Company. In 1902 he took charge of the drainage work in Chisago, Washington and Isanti counties, in which position he is serving at the present time. In 1899 he opened a civil engineering office in St. Paul, which he still conducts. In 1906 he was elected to his present position as surveyor of the county. He is a member of the Civil Engineering Society of St. Paul and also of the Commercial Club of St. Paul.

Henry A. Swenson is the son of John and Sarah (Shaleen) Swenson. The former was born in Sweden and came to Chisago county, Minn., in 1855, being one of the earliest settlers in the county. He first settled at Chisago City and after residing in

that village for a short time purchased a farm in Chisago Lake township, which he improved and where he carried on general farming and stock raising to some extent until the time of his death. In the old country he studied and taught music and was organist for a large congregation. He died at his home on the farm at about sixty-five years of age. His widow survived him, dying in January, 1908. Both were members of the Swedish Lutheran church and are buried at Lindstrom. The father was a public spirited man, and while in the old country was a teacher in the parochial schools in connection with his profession as organist. To Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Swenson were born eight children: John Alfred is cashier of the Scandinavian-American Bank at St. Paul; Henry A. Swenson, is the second son; Oscar W. resides at Merriam Park, St. Paul, being superintendent for Foley Brothers, railroad contractors; Olive Agnes is the wife of George W. Martin, of Duluth, Minn.; Jennie C. died at the age of twenty-four years. She was the wife of Frank Erlanson, of Marine, Minn. Emily F., unmarried, died at Lindstrom in January, 1908. Two others died in infancy.

**Chengwatana** derived its name from the Chippewa words, "chengwa" (pine) and "tana" (city), applied to an Indian village which from time immemorial had been located near the mouth of Cross lake. This locality had long been a rallying point for Indians and traders. Even at so early a date as 1846 it had the appearance of an ancient place of resort. Half-breeds and whites with Indian wives settled here, and in 1852 there were several log houses and a hotel kept by one Ebenezer Ayer. There was also a dam built for sluicing logs. Among the early settlers were Duane Porter, George Goodwin, Herman Trott, John G. Randall and Emil, Gustave and Adolph Munch. Mr. Trott built a residence and the Munch brothers built a store and made other improvements. John G. Randall, in 1856-7-8 manufactured lumber, ran it down the Kanabec and St. Croix rivers to Rush Sheba, Sunrise and Taylors Falls. In 1852 and soon after the building of the government road to Superior, a postoffice was established, the settlement being on the stage line between St. Paul and Superior. In later years several of the old settlers moved away. Mr. Trott and the Munch brothers went to St. Paul; J. G. Randall to Colorado and Louis Ayd to Taylors Falls. In 1856 an effort was made to found a village on the site of the old Indian town of Chengwatana. Judd, Walker & Co., and Daniel A. Robertson surveyed and platted the village of Alhambra, but the old Indian name of Chenwatana superseded it. The town of Chengwatana was organized in 1874. The first supervisors were Duane Porter, Resin Denman and Ferdinand Blank.

**Louis Ayd** was born in Germany in 1840; came to America in 1852 and settled in Chengwatana. He served in the Civil War and after returning from that conflict located in Taylors Falls. He married Rosabella Hoffman, of Hudson, Wis., in 1871.

**Duane Porter** was born in New York in 1825 and after living in Illinois came to St. Croix Falls in 1844. He was married in 1848 to Mary Laprairie, and in the same year located at Chengwatana. By occupation he was an explorer and lumberman.

**S. A. Hutchinson** was a native of Maine and located in Chengwatana while still a youth. He married a Chippewa squaw and raised a family of half-breed children. He was a lumberman and explorer, and served four years as sheriff of the county. On the night of August 16, 1880, he was found in a sitting posture in his bed, dead, with a rifle ball in his heart. His oldest son had desired to marry an Indian girl, and to this the father had objected. The night following the murder this marriage took place after the Indian fashion, and suspicion at once pointed to the son and his Indian mother. The grand jury indicted the son, but after a trial, he was acquitted.

**Chisago Lake** township was settled at an early date—the first settler, John D. Van Rensaelear, coming in 1851. A colony of Swedes located there about this time. The hardy pioneers selected land to their own liking, finding nobody excepting Van Rensalear. In 1852 they raised the first rye, barley and flax in the county. Peter Berg raised flax and made linen thread in 1852. In that year more settlers arrived, and in 1858 a postoffice was established, A. Nelson, postmaster. The first supervisors were E. C. Ingalls, Frank Mobeck and Daniel Lindstrom. The first church was the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran, in 1854.

**Chisago City,** beautifully situated between two lovely lakes, was platted by Isaac Bernheimer, of Philadelphia, as early as 1855. Mr. Bernheimer made large investments in Minnesota in the early days, acquiring much real estate by failure or rather by absolute inability of those to whom he had loaned money to repay the sums due with 20 per cent interest. There are Bernheimer blocks in several Minnesota cities. There has been one in Stillwater since 1859. Chisago City flourished for a time, and is known in these late years as one of the charming summer resorts of that section.

**Fish Lake** township contains some fine lakes, among which might be mentioned Horseshoe and Cedar lakes. The town was cut off from Sunrise and organized in 1868. The first supervisors were Charles F. Stark, Benjamin Franklin and John A. Hokanson. A postoffice was established in 1868, with Benjamin Franklin as postmaster. The first settlers were Peter Olaf and Peter

Bergland. The first school was taught by Miss Mattison. The first marriage was that of John Hokanson and Matilda Samuelson. The first death was that of John Erickson. In 1877 a murder was committed. A man named Hosberg, a mill watchman, ordered a man named Priestly not to smoke on the mill premises, whereupon Priestly slew him. The Englishman was arrested, tried for murder and acquitted. Among the well-known men of the early days were Benjamin Franklin, whose real name was Ben Franz Norel, and Peter Berg.

**Franconia** township is well watered by the Lawrence and several other creeks, tributary to the St. Croix. There are also several clear, though small lakes. Ansel Smith was the first settler of the town and village, which he named after Franconia in the White mountains. He came here in 1852 and raised the first crops. He was also the first postmaster. The township was organized in 1858. The first supervisors were Ansel Smith, Leonard P. Day and A. J. Adams.

**Franconia** village was platted in 1858 by Ansel Smith. It was incorporated in 1884. Paul Munch, in 1860, erected a large flouring mill. A sawmill was erected in 1854 by the Clark Brothers and Ansel Smith. Henry F. and Leonard P. Day built the first good dwelling in the village. Margaret Smith taught the first school. The first death in the village was that of Neil Monroe. Among the prominent men of the early days were Ansel Smith, Henry F. and Leonard P. Day, Henry Wills, James, Rufus and Charles Clark, David Smith, Jonas Lindall, William Peaslee, Charles Vitalis, August J. Anderson, Frank N. Peterson and others.

**Harris** township is well watered and drained by Goose creek. The first improvement was a farm, made by W. H. C. Folsom in 1854. The first permanent settler was Henry H. Seavy, who located on this farm in 1856. The township was organized in 1884.

**Harris** is an incorporated village with a population of 670, on the Northern Pacific railroad. It has one banking institution—the Bank of Harris, capitalized at $10,000; two hotels, a starch factory, a graded school, three churches—Baptist, Lutheran and Methodist; telegraph and telephone service, daily mail, three general stores, one shoe store, blacksmith shop, creamery, saloon, two meat markets, dealer in farm implements, hardware and lumber, and one livery stable. A charter organizing Harris village was granted by the district court under the general law in 1882. A question arose as to the legality of the act. A subsequent legislature confirmed all similarly organized villages in the state. The supreme court, however, decided the organization of such villages illegal, and the legislative act sanctioning

it unconstitutional. It was afterward organized legally. The village was surveyed by A. D. Miller and platted in May, 1873, with Philip S. Harris and N. D. Miller as proprietors. It derived its name from the former gentleman, a prominent railroad man at that time. Fred Wolf was the first settler in 1870 and the first merchant and first railroad agent, in 1873. He acted as postmaster also. Isaac Savage was the second settler and merchant. He was the first postmaster, in 1873. In that year the first school was taught by Mary Gwinn. The first child born was Brague, son of W. D. Sayers. The first marriage was that of M. P. Smith and Charlotte Swenson. A good schoolhouse was built in 1877.

**Kettle River** township was organized in 1874. S. S. Griggs was chairman of the first board of supervisors. Mr. Griggs was also the first settler. In company with John S. Prince, of St. Paul, he built a sawmill at the St. Paul & Duluth railroad crossing on Kettle river in 1871-72. This was not a successful venture. A postoffice was established at the mill and Mr. Griggs was appointed postmaster.

**John C. Hanley** was born in Covington, Ky., and was educated at Oxford College, Ohio. He located at St. Paul in 1849, and in 1853 was married to Sophia Ramsdale at St. Anthony. In 1862 he enlisted in Company M., Minnesota Mounted Cavalry, a company recruited principally at Sunrise, Chisago county, by Captain James Starkey. He was commissioned second lieutenant, and was with General Sibley's expedition against the Sioux. Subsequently he received a captain's commission and recruited Company M, Second Minnesota Cavalry, stationed on the frontier. He was mustered out in 1865.

**Lent** township is drained by Sunrise river. The first settlers were Harvey Lent, from whom the town derived its name, William Robinson, James Buckingham, who raised the first crops, in 1855; Joshua Dawson, Jesse Moore and others. The town was organized in 1872. The first supervisors were the Messrs. Dawson, Moore and Robinson. The first postoffice was established in 1875 at Stacy, with Frank Dawson as first postmaster.

## LINDSTROM.

Lindstrom, a popular summer resort on the Northern Pacific railroad, has a population of 700. It has a weekly newspaper, the "Chisago County Press;" the First State Bank of Lindstrom, with a capital of $14,000; two churches—English Lutheran, Evangelical Trinity church; pastorate vacant at present; Swedish Methodist Episcopal church, schools, flour mills and sawmill, a concrete block plant, hotels, a nursery, system of waterworks, a dentist, a barber, one creamery, four saloons, three general stores, drug

store, opera house, one tailor, a clothing store, dealer in potatoes, a photograph gallery, confectionery, jewelry store, harness shop, etc. Lindstrom was platted in 1880 by G. W. Sewall, surveyor. The proprietors were James and Elizabeth Smith. Maurice Tombler built the first store and elevator in 1881. A postoffice was established in 1880 with Charles H. Bush as postmaster. Names prominent in the early days were those of Daniel Lindstrom and Magnus S. Shaleen.

**Charles Andrews** was born in Chisago Lake, this county, August 15, 1857, son of Andrew Peter and Martha (Carlson) Anderson, both natives of Sweden. Andrew Peter Anderson came to the United States in 1852 and settled in Illinois at Galena, for one year. There his first wife died, leaving two children. He then came to Chisago county in 1853 and purchased 100 acres of government land, which he improved and developed, continuing to carry on general farming. In 1856 he married the mother of our subject, by whom he has nine children, five of whom, besides our subject, are still living. During the great Civil War he served three years in Company C, Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He died in 1889 at the age of seventy years, and his widow passed away in 1907 at the age of seventy-three years. Both are interred in Fairview cemetery at Lindstrom, the cemetery being a part of the old Andrews homestead. Charles Andrews received a common school education at Lindstrom and assisted upon the home farm until 1890, managing the old homestead and running a threshing machine on his own account. Later he moved to Lindstrom and engaged in the general mercantile business, which he followed for nine years. For five years he was assessor of the township of Chisago Lake and in 1886 was elected sheriff of the county, holding the position for eight years. After an interim of six years he was again elected sheriff and has served another eight years, making in all sixteen years of faithful service in this capacity. In 1891 he opened a lumber business in Center City with William Carlson as partner, and still continues in that business. In 1907 he purchased a lumber business at Lindstrom from A. Earlson, and has a large and extensive trade there. Mr. Andrews was married December 10, 1892, to Ellen C. Swanson, born in Sweden, but a resident of the United States since seven years of age. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Andrews one son has been born, Raymond C., born at Lindstrom, October 19, 1893, now a pupil in the Lindstrom public schools. Mr. and Mrs. Andrews are members of the English Lutheran church, Mr. Andrews being treasurer of the church committee. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen.

**Oscar F. Lindstrom** was born on his father's farm, where the

village of Lindstrom now stands, May 16, 1867, son of Daniel and Johanna (Peterson) Lindstrom, both natives of Sweden. The father came to America in 1854 and settled in the township of Chisago Lake, Minn., where he purchased 130 acres. He improved this land, brought it under cultivation and engaged in general farming and stock raising. About 1878 he sold his farm to a syndicate which desired to establish a railroad station at the point. He continued, however, to reside on the old homestead. He took an active part in all local affairs, and for twenty years was constable in the township of Chisago Lake. He died at Lindstrom in 1895 at the age of seventy years. His widow is still living, and until 1897 lived on the old homestead. She now resides in California at the age of sixty-four. To Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Lindstrom were born, all on the old homestead, three children: Theodore E. resides at Lindstrom and is engaged in the real estate business at Rush City. Clara is the wife of Peter M. Holt, a carpenter and contractor of San Diego, Cal. Oscar F. was the oldest child. He attended the common schools of the county and went to the business college at Anoka, Minn., assisting his father on the farm for several years. He then engaged in the banking business at Tower, Minn., and at Duluth and Superior, remaining in the latter city some seven or eight years. Later he started a clothing establishment at Lindstrom, which he conducted for a period of four years. In 1902 he was appointed cashier of the First State Bank of Lindstrom, which position he has held ever since. A Republican in politics he has served on the school board and as president of the village council of Lindstrom. He has been one of the trustees of the village since its organization and is serving his fourth year as village treasurer. He is a member and has been one of the councilmen of the English Lutheran church. For twelve years he has affiliated with the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Lindstrom was married November 25, 1897, to Sophia Anderson, of Lindtrom, daughter of Peter and Katherine Anderson. Mr. Anderson was one of the early settlers of Lindstrom and is now deceased. His widow is still living. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Lindstrom four children have been born, all in the village of Lindstrom. Reynold Daniel, the oldest, was born September 25, 1898, and is now attending the public schools. The other three are: Gertrude Katherine, Eldred Oscar and Kenneth Lyle.

**Mission Creek** was organized as a township in 1880. The first supervisors were M. Thomas, T. Johnson, William McKean. The Messrs. H. A. Taylor and Philip Riley & Co., of St. Paul, were the first operators. They built a sawmill with a capacity of 3,000,000 feet per annum. The mill was burned down in 1885, but was rebuilt.

**Nessell** was set off from Rush Lake and organized in 1870. The first supervisors were William H. McCray, John H. Breit and Matts Colleen. Martin Linnell was the first white child born. The first marriage was that of William Vanetta and Anna Johnson in 1861. Alice Draper taught the first school. Rev. Cedarstam preached the first sermon. Robert Nessell and Stephen B. Clark were among the well-known citizens of the early days.

## NORTH BRANCH.

North Branch is a thriving and prosperous village of 850 inhabitants, located on the Northern Pacific railroad. They have one banking institution, the Merchants State Bank, with a capital of $12,500; one weekly paper, the North Branch "Review." The churches are the Congregational, Methodist, German Lutheran, Swedish Lutheran, Episcopal and Catholic. There are public schools, two starch factories, two hotels, a creamery, flour mill and telephone service, and the village makes large shipments of hay, potatoes and other products of the farm. It has daily mail, several general stores, one commission house, shoe makers, harness makers, confectioners, painters, a jewelry store, dealer in pianos, organs and other musical instruments, photograph gallery, a clothing store, hardware store, three saloons, laundry, barber shop, two restaurants, a dentist, dealer in lumber, etc. North Branch village was platted in January, 1870, the proprietors being the Western Land Association, L. Mendenhall, agent. The first settler was G. M. Flanders, who opened a store here in 1868. The establishment was burned one year later. Henry L. Ingalls erected a good hotel and other buildings. In 1870 Gurley & Brothers established a store. In 1874 J. F. Swanson built a flouring mill, which was burned in 1879.

**Otto W. Fagerstrom,** cashier of the Merchants State Bank, was born in Arboga, Sweden, April 9, 1865, son of John August and Anna (Lindholm) Fagerstrom, the former of whom, a sea captain, died in 1867. In 1869 the mother married John P. Hasselblad, a coppersmith. Otto W. came to America in 1880 and located in Grantsburg, Wis., working in the woods and on the rivers, logging, lumbering and log driving. In 1885 he went to St. Paul and worked as a grocery clerk and three years later, 1888, came to North Branch and entered the employ of K. P. Paulson as clerk. For several years he was employed by E. C. Best & Co., of Minneapolis, as potato buyer, until January, 1900, when he became cashier of the Merchants Bank under the presidency of F. F. Murray. In 1904, when the institution was reorganized as a State bank, Mr. Fargerstrom was retained as cashier. He has taken an active interest in public affairs, especially in matters concerning the village. With the exception

of two or three years he has held public office continuously since 1892, his service including terms as village recorder and president of the village council. At the present time he is the village treasurer. Mr. Fagerstrom was instrumental in bringing about the cement sidewalk improvements and strongly urged the planting of boulevard trees. In 1906 he organized the North Branch Public Improvement Association, and as its president purchased for the association the old public school building, and personally superintended the moving of the building to the village lots, thus giving North Branch a town hall of which the citizens may justly be proud. It is worthy of note that all the schooling which Mr. Fagerstrom received was in the common schools of Sweden before he was fifteen years of age, but with these limited opportunities, he has acquired broad general information by means of reading and close observation, and has been very successful in his business career. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, the Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the United Foresters. In 1889 Mr. Fagerstrom was married to Minnie E. Schmidt, born at Ft. Shaw Mountain, daughter of John P. and Emeli Schmidt. To this union have been born six children, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Fagerstrom and children are all members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

**Gustaf Peterson** is a native of Kalmar, Sweden, born April 5, 1872, son of Peter and Christina Peterson, natives of Sweden, who devoted their lives to farming. The father died in 1894 and the mother in 1890. Gustaf received his education in the public and high schools of his native country and came to America at the age of seventeen. He entered the Curtiss college at Minneapolis and remained until twenty-two years of age. Subsequently he farmed for two years and then went to Two Harbors, Minn., where he found employment as a meat cutter. Three years later he came to North Branch and started work for Carter & Co. at the same trade, remaining six months. He was employed a similar period for Gust Peterson at Lindstrom, and then returned to North Branch and engaged in the meat business for himself one year. In 1902 he bought out the meat establishment of Carter & Co. and has since continued to enjoy a successful and increasing trade. Mr. Peterson was married at Minneapolis in 1901 to Jennie M. Sederberg, daughter of Olof Sederberg, a farmer of Spring Lake. Mr. Sederberg died in July, 1906, and the mother still lives on the old homestead. To Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have been born five children, three of whom are living: Virgil Leroy, born July 26, 1903; Perl H., born December 18, 1904, and Bernard B., born September 29, 1906. Mr. Peterson is a Republican in politics and belongs to the

Swedish Lutheran church. He affiliates with the United Workmen.

**John A. Rystrom** was born in Sweden, December 21, 1855, son of Peter and Christina Rystrom, natives of Sweden, who came to America in 1866 and located in the state of Indiana one year. In 1867 they went to Chisago Lake, Minn., and in 1869 moved to Spring Lake, Isanti county, Minn., where they homesteaded eighty acres of land, erected a home and out buildings, broke the ground, and carried on diversified farming until 1890, when the father sold his farm to his son Gust, and lived a retired life until his death in 1902. The widow died in 1908. John A. received his education in the public schools of Isanti and Chisago counties, and after leaving school he worked out for several years, mostly on railroads. In 1876 he purchased 120 acres of land in Chisago county, being the first settler in the vicinity of the village of North Branch. Later he added eighty acres to his original farm, and broke and improved this land and carried on general farming until 1900. While engaged in farming he made a specialty of raising potatoes, and in 1892, together with several other prominent citizens, he formed a company and built what is known as the Farmers' Starch Factory, Mr. Rystrom being elected president and manager, which position he still holds. In 1899 he, with others, organized the North Branch Milling Company, and built a flour and feed mill, of which Mr. Rystrom was chosen president. In 1900 he was selected as manager, a position which he still holds. This company is in a flourishing condition and is doing, it is said, the largest business in its particular line between Duluth and Minneapolis. Mr. Rystrom still owns a 200-acre farm in Chisago county and also a pleasant home in North Branch, as well as a section of land in Saskatchewan, Canada. The subject of this sketch was married June 24, 1882, at Fish Lake, Minn., to Ida C. Peterson, daughter of J. H. Peterson, a prominent farmer of Fish Lake. To this union have been born four children: Edward, born July 31, 1884, married Laura Johnson and is now a Canadian farmer; Charles, born March 8, 1886, is also a farmer in Canada; Tilda, born December 8, 1887, was graduated from the commercial department of Gustavus-Adolphus college at St. Peter, Minn., and is now employed as stenographer and bookkeeper for her father. Emma, born February 16, 1891, is now taking a musical course at Minnesota college, in Minneapolis. Mr. Rystrom is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Lutheran church. He has served as county commissioner sixteen years and during his service was chairman for ten years. He has been school clerk sixteen years and has also served as village treasurer. Mr. Rystrom started in life as a poor man and all that he now

possesses has been gained by his own hard labor. He is respected by all who know him.

**Royalton** was organized in 1880. The first supervisors were Edward Peterson, Alexis Kain and Joseph Heninger. The first settlement was made by Elam Greeley in 1849. He cleared a farm and built a large barn, hauling the lumber from Marine Mills, a distance of seventy miles. The town was named in honor of Royal C. Gray, who located on the Greeley farm in 1854 on the banks of the Kanabec river.

**Rock Creek** township was organized in March, 1874. The first supervisors were Enoch Horton, Frank England and S. M. Hewson. Obadiah Hewson was town clerk and Enoch Horton and C. W. Gill were justices of the peace. Mr. Gorton was the first settler, he having come to the county in 1872. He was the first postmaster at Rock Creek. Other settlers came in slowly. Egerton, Gill and Company built a sawmill in 1873 with a capacity of 3,000,000 feet.

**Capt. Enoch Horton** was born in 1811 and came from Colchester, N. Y., to Minnesota in 1862. He served twenty-two years as justice of the peace and county judge in New York state and during the Civil war was captain of a company of sharpshooters.

**Rush City** is an incorporated village on the Northern Pacific railroad, and has for many years occupied an important position among the villages and towns in that region. The churches are the Catholic, Swedish Lutheran, German Lutheran, Swedish Mission, Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopal. It has a state high school; excellent bank facilities, the First National Bank, with a capital of $25,000, and the State Bank of Rush City, with a capital of $30,000; one weekly paper, The Rush City "Post;" a flour mill, brick yard, grain elevator, three hotels, a foundry, three creameries, a starch factory and electric light plant, meat market, livery stable, drug store, six saloons, the Rush City roller mills, a barber shop, foundry, meat market, three general stores, a dry goods store, cigar manufactory, photograph gallery and a flour and feed store. The village of Rush City was surveyed and platted in January, 1870, by Benjamin W. Brunson. The Western Land Association, with L. Mendenhall as agent, was the proprietor. Thomas Flynn was the first settler, he having in 1857 pre-empted the land which afterward became the site of the village. Among the improvements in 1867 was a steam saw mill built by Taylor & Co. This was burned in 1879. The village was incorporated in 1874, and Frank H. Pratt was president of the first village council. Among the prominent citizens of the early days were Thomas Flynn,

Patrick Flynn, Rufus Crocker, Frank H. Pratt, Voloro D. Eddy and Ferdinand Sweedorff Christianson.

**James J. Flynn,** president of the village council of Rush City, is a native of this village, born January 9, 1857, son of Patrick H. Flynn. Patrick H. was born in County Mayo, Ireland, in 1829, and came to America in 1831, settling in eastern Canada. In 1853 he came to this locality and two years afterward, in 1855, he brought his wife here and made a permanent settlement. With his brother, Thomas, he pre-empted 320 acres of land, the present site of Rush City village. Patrick H. was married in 1855 at Chicago, Ill., to Margaret Kelley, by whom he had nine children, four of whom are now alive. James J. is the oldest, the family now consisting of two sons and two daughters. James J. received his early education at Rush City, after which he took up railroad work in the engineering department of the North Wisconsin Construction Company, which he followed three years. Subsequently he spent three years doing bridge constructing work for the Wisconsin Central railroad, and in 1884 returned to Rush City and engaged in buying oxen for the pine lumber woods four years. In 1888 he opened a livery stable and a real estate office, in both of which lines he has continued with success. Mr. Flynn was married February 2, 1899, at Rush City to Magdalena Bier, daughter of John Bier, for twenty years a hotel proprietor. Mr. Bier died October 7, 1908, and his wife October 8, 1907. To Mr. and Mrs. Flynn two children were born: Edward P., born December 21, 1900, and George A., born November 20, 1902. The family religion is that of the Catholic church. Mr. Flynn is independent in politics and has been president of the village council four terms. He has been assessor and treasurer and has held minor offices for nearly twenty years. He is also a stockholder and director in the State Bank of Rush City. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen and the Odd Fellows. As president of the village he has advocated many measures for the betterment of Rush City, and he is well regarded by the taxpayers whom he serves. Mr. Flynn has been treasurer of the Chisago County Agricultural Society for eighteen years. He is a stockholder in that society and is actively interested in its management.

**Rush Seba** was organized in 1858 with George B. Folsom, Robert Newell and Timothy Ward as supervisors. The postoffice was established in 1859 with George B. Folsom as postmaster. Mr. Folsom was the first settler and raised the first crops in the township in 1855. Josephine Blanding taught the first school in 1856. The first death was that of James Ward, who died from accidental poisoning.

**John F. Stone,** the subject of this sketch, was born in the

JOHN F. STONE

town of Porter, Oxford county, Me., March 2, 1839. His ancestors on the mother's side were Hazeltines from the Highlands of Scotland, who took an active part in the Revolutionary war, having settled in the territory of Vermont some years previous. On the father's side was the English blood, and Thomas Stone, a brother of his great-grandfather, was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Mr. Stone received his education in the common schools of Cornish, York county, Me., and at the breaking out of the Rebellion in 1861 he enlisted in Company E, Ninth Maine Volunteers, and served for three years. His service was in South Carolina and Florida until the spring of 1864, when the army corps to which the Ninth Maine belonged was transferred to the Army of the Potomac under Grant. He received an honorable discharge after three years' service, September 16, 1864. Later he enlisted as hospital steward in the regular army, but was not mustered in, as the war closed at that date. He was married in March, 1859, to Emily J. McKusick, who died in March, 1898. She was a woman possessing all the virtues and graces that ever adorned a female character. One child, a daughter, survives, who is Mrs. J. Y. Breckenridge, of Pine City, who possesses all the good qualities of the mother, spiced with a goodly share of the father's independence.

At the close of the Civil war Mr. Stone taught school in Maine and Minnesota for sixteen years and then entered the business of hotel keeping at Pine City, Minn., in which he was continuously engaged until 1898. He kept a good hotel. While keeping the hotel he indulged somewhat in literary work, some of which bears the impress of respectability. In 1898 he took up editorial work and has followed that occupation since most of the time.

He was married the second time in 1902 to the widow of the late Franklyn W. Lee, the editor and proprietor of the Rush City "Post." Mr. Lee was a writer of eminence, the author of several novels, many magazine articles and some of the gems of American poetry in existence. Mrs. Stone has two children, a daughter, Colice M. Lee, a successful teacher and an accomplished pianist; a son, Jerome A. Lee, is a midshipman in the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., class of 1912, entering at the age of seventeen years. Mrs. Stone is still the editor and proprietor of the Rush City "Post," is a woman of marked ability as a writer and has attained a rare popularity in the editorial and fraternal associations of the state.

In politics Mr. Stone is a Republican and in religion independent, though he has been for many years a close student of

the Bible. He and his can claim, as did a once famous Maine poet:

"I claim no blood of royal fools.
My father was a yeoman,
Who owned his farm and farming tools;
My mother was a woman."

**Sunrise Township** was incorporated October 26, 1858, with Isaac A. Parmenter, David Lovejoy and A. C. Mattison as supervisors. The first marriage was that of Robert Nessell and Kate Torbert, by J. D. Wilcox, Esq., and the first child born was Joshua Taylor Gallespie. The first death was that of an unknown man who died from the kick of a horse. William Holmes, the first settler, located on Sunrise prairie in 1853 and raised crops on fifteen acres that year. John A. Brown and Patten W. Davis cultivated thirty-five acres the same year. Messrs. Brown, Davis and Ingalls made a wagon road from Sunrise to St. Paul in 1853. John A. Brown the same year built a hotel and opened a store. The hotel was built of logs and the store was a frame building, the first erected in Sunrise. In 1855 he built a saw mill. His hotel was burned in 1856. These buildings were the nucleus of Sunrise village.

**Sunrise** has a population of 125; two churches—Congregational and Swedish Lutheran, a graded school, hotel, flour mills, cheese factory, telephone service, daily mail, sawmill, one general store, and a dealer in farm implements. Sunrise village was platted in July, 1857. The proprietors were John A. Brown, J. S. Caldwell and C. L. Willis. W. F. Duffy was the surveyor. In 1857 a colony from western New York settled in and around Sunrise village. Among these families were the Messrs. Wilcox, Wilkes, Collins, Gwynne, Smith and others. The village has suffered greatly from loss by fires. In 1862, immediately after the Sioux outbreak, considerable apprehension was felt as to the attitude of the Chippewas toward the white settlers, and a company of volunteers, under Captain Anderson was stationed at Sunrise. This company built temporary quarters of logs and remained until spring, but met no savage foes.

**Henry L. Ingalls** was born in Connecticut in 1804 and married Lavina L. Child, who was born in that state in 1806. They lived in Cass county, Illinois, and in California, coming to this locality in 1853. At the time of his arrival at Sunrise Prairie, the place was an unbroken wilderness. For 17 years he lived on his farm and kept a country hotel. In 1870 he moved to North Branch and died there September 2, 1876. The first postoffice north of Taylors Falls, in Chisago county, was kept at his house and was known as Muscotink.

**Stacy,** with a population of 200, is on the Northern Pacific railroad, nine miles west of Center City and eight miles south of North Branch. It has Methodist and Lutheran churches, a graded school, saw and feed mills, a blacksmith, three general stores, one livery, one meat dealer, one insurance agent, one lumber dealer and one real estate agent.

**Shafer,** with a population of seventy-five, is located on the Northern Pacific railroad; has a postoffice, two creameries, a sawmill, telegraph and telephone service, a daily mail, three general stores, millinery store, blacksmith shop and meat market.

Shafer township was settled by a Swedish colony in 1853. Numbered in this colony were Peter Wyckland, Andros Anderson, Eric Byland and Tuver Walmarson. The township was organized as Taylors Falls, but the name was changed to Shafer in 1873. John G. Peterson, John Nelson and John Carlson were the first supervisors. The first school was taught by Ella Wyckoff in the Marshall district, in 1859. The first marriage was that of Peter Abear and Kittie Wyckland. The town was named from Jacob Shafer, who cut hay in the township in 1847, but who left in the early days and left no trace of his whereabouts. Regret has been expressed that the township should have been named from so transient a settler instead of from some of the sturdy Swedes who made the real prosperity of the township possible. Among the men whose names were prominent in the early days were Peter Wyckland, Tuver Walmarson, Andros Anderson, Eric Byland, Jacob Peterson, Ambrose C. Seavey and others.

**Nelson Tuvey,** one of the prominent residents of Shafer township, was born in Sweden, September 6, 1840, and came to America with his father, William Tuvey, in 1863. Upon the arrival of the family at Stillwater, Nelson secured employment on a farm near that city, where he remained until entering the army. The father in the meantime was building a home on his homestead near Taylors Falls, where Nelson Tuvey now resides. In 1864 Nelson enlisted in the Eleventh Volunteer Infantry at Stillwater and was in the detached service in the vicinity of Nashville, Tenn., until appointed the personal orderly of Brigadier General Gilfillam, with whom he remained until mustered out at Gallatin, Texas, in June, 1865. He then returned to Taylors Falls where he engaged in the teaming business until 1868, when he purchased the home farm from his father. In 1870 he was married at Taylors Falls to Emma Johnson of that place, and to this union seven children were born. Hanna J. is the wife of L. S. Searnson, of St. Paul, Minn.; Ida C. is the wife of V. L. Johnson, of Center City, Minn.; Nancy C. is the wife of G. S. Johnson, of Taylors Falls, Minn.; Georgia G. is the wife of William Poulin, of St. Paul, Minn.; Nellie C. is the wife of Edward Holmgren, of Min-

neapolis, Minn.; James A. and Ethel Elodia are living at home. During his residence in Chisago county, Mr. Tuvey has been actively interested in public and political affairs. He was elected to the office of town treasurer for two terms, filled the office of supervisor for eight years and afterward was promoted to the position of chairman, which he acceptably filled for six years. In educational affairs his deep interest may be ascertained from the fact that his neighbors retained him in the office of school auditor continuously for sixteen years. He is a regular attendant of the Evangelical Lutheran church of Taylors Falls. Mr. Tuvey is the owner of a farm of 210 acres, which is devoted to the raising of live stock and small grain. He was one of the first farmers in his section of the country to recognize the benefits of dairying to the farmer and he is a stockholder in the Shafer Creamery Company.

## CHAPTER LVIII.

## CHISAGO COUNTY.

**Taylors Falls—Early Settlement—Starting of Modern Institutions—Lack of Transportation Facilities—How the Mail Was Carried—Last Indian Dance—Prominent Men of the Early Days—Biography—Washington—Wyoming—Windermere.**

The village of Taylors Falls was platted in 1851. Additions were made from time to time as the increasing population demanded. A year before the survey a frame building was erected on what was subsequently the northwest corner of River and First street. In 1851 and 1852 some streets were opened, but with considerable difficulty on account of the trap rock, which, to be removed, required blasting. There were no roads to the village, and the only means of travel was by steamboat, bateaux, or birch bark canoes. A postoffice was established in March, 1851, and a weekly mail was ordered from Stillwater. Prior to this time a semi-monthly mail had been carried between the points named. Of the office established in 1859, N. C. D. Taylor was the first postmaster—W. H. C. Folsom, deputy. The successors have been Porter E. Walker, Edward P. Wyman, Thomas Holmes, Oscar Roos, George W. Seymour and N. M. Humphrey. The mail carrier in 1851 was the Hon. Warren Bristol, since then four times a representative and senator from Goodhue county in the state legislature, and United States judge in Arizona. The mail service has passed through all the graduations from a semi-monthly to a semi-daily mail. The mail has been carried in canoes or bateaux, on foot, on horseback, on steamboat and railroad. It is now carried by railroad. The second mill, one for grinding grain, was built by N. C. D. Taylor, W. H. C. Folsom and the Day brothers, in 1852. Several years later it was transformed into a carding mill. Another sawmill was built in 1857, which, after a few years was abandoned. The first merchant was Daniel Mears, in 1848. Another store was opened in 1850, and another in 1852. The Chisago house was built in 1852, and in 1870 the name was changed to Dalles house. It has changed landlords many times, the last being Henry Kattenberg. The Cascade house was built in 1853, and the Falls house in 1870.

The first physician was L. B. Smith. Susan Thomson taught the first school. The first marriage was that of Charles D.

Turney and Cecelia Ring, Ansel Smith officiating. William Colby was the first white child born in the village. The first death was that of a daughter of Ansel Smith. Rev. W. T. Boutwell preached the first sermon in 1851. Rev. Julius S. Webber, Baptist, preached occasionally in 1852 and 1853. In April, 1859, Rev. Silas Bolles, a Methodist, organized a society, the first in the village. In 1861 the Baptist society built a church at a cost of $3,000. In 1860 the Swedish Evangelical Lutherans built a church at a cost of $1,500. The Presbyterians built a church in 1868, and the Roman Catholics erected one in 1873. The St. Croix bridge was constructed in 1856, and was rebuilt in 1870, and was replaced in 1884 by an iron bridge, at the cost of over $6,000. The Chisago County bank was organized in 1858 under the state banking law, but was closed in 1859. Zion Lodge, No. 55, A. F. & A. M., was organized March 3, 1866. Sherman Post, No. 6, G. A. R., was organized in July, 1882, Casper Hauser, commander. The Taylors Falls Library Association was organized October 8, 1871, E. D. Whiting, president; J. A. McGowan, secretary. Within two years the library numbered 1,000 volumes, and the number has been steadily increased since that date. The last Indian dance in Taylors Falls was given by a party of Chippawas in 1856. They had come down the St. Croix in birch bark canoes with furs and cranberries to exchange with Samuels in St. Croix village for "scootawaboo," or whisky. They remained about a week, drinking and carousing in their peculiar style. One Sabbath day, and when, for a wonder they were quite sober, they visited Taylors Falls and gave a series of grotesque and laughable dances in the street, after which they called for presents as tokens of friendship and appreciation, kindly and gravely shook hands and recrossed the river. The first newspaper in Chisago county was established in Taylors Falls early in 1860 by Frank H. Pratt, and known as the Taylors Falls "Reporter."

Some of the prominent men of the early days were: Jesse Taylor, Joshua L. Taylor, Nathan C. D. Taylor, Thomas F. Morton, Henry N. Setzer, Patrick Fox, W. F. Colby, Oscar Roos, Samuel Thomson, George De Attly, Jacob Markley, John Dobney, William Dobney, Henry H. Newberry, Emil Munch, Alvin Mason Wilmarth, Lucius Stannard, James W. Mullen, David Caneday, George B. Folsom, Aaron M. Chase, Peter Abear, Levi W. Folsom, Eddington Knowles, Dr. Lucius B. Smith, William Comer, Dr. Erastus D. Whiting, Selah Whiting, Charles B. Whiting, Frederic Tang, Ward W. Folsom, George W. Seymour, James A. Wooley, Patrick Carroll, Joseph Carroll, Rev. E. E. Edwards, Stephen J. Merrill, Noah M. Humphrey, Royal C. Gray, John P. Owens, Andrew Clendenning and Smith Ellison.

**David A. Caneday** was born at Readsborough, Vt., July 21,

1830, son of David and Maria (Stearns) Caneday. He received his early education in the public schools of Readsborough and at Griffiths institute, Springville, N. Y. He learned the printing trade at Greenfield, Mass., and then spent a year in New York city, where he was employed in a publishing house. He then removed to Erie county, New York, where he secured employment on the Springville "Clarion," during this time attending Griffiths institute. He came west in 1853 and spent twenty-five or thirty years off and on in the woods of northern Wisconsin, employed in cruising pine and mineral lands. In 1861 he located at Taylors Falls, where he purchased the Taylors Falls "Reporter," which he conducted until the fall of 1863, when he sold out to Charles Folsom and enlisted, November 24, in Company C, Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry and served in the Sixteenth Army Corps under Major General A. J. Smith until August 15, 1865, when he was honorably mustered out at Fort Snelling, Minn. At the battle of Tupelo, Miss., he volunteered to care for the wounded and while attending to this merciful duty was captured by the Confederate forces and imprisoned 140 days in Meridian (Miss.) stockade, when he was sent through the lines by parol from General Forest, participating in the battle of Nashville, and in the taking of Ft. Blakely and Spanish Fort on Mobile bay. After being mustered out, he returned to Taylors Falls and engaged in the mercantile business for about two years. After retiring from business at Taylors Falls he moved to Osceola, Wis., where he farmed for two years. Then he turned his attention to mining, which he followed until 1881. He served as a member of the Wisconsin State Geological survey under Moses Strong during 1876-1877. He established a newspaper named the "Dalles of St. Croix," at St. Croix Falls, Wis., and conducted this sheet until 1884, when he sold it to Charles Mears, of Osceola, Wis. Since that time he has given all his attention to the management of his mining properties in Pine county, Minnesota, and Burnett county, Wisconsin. Mr. Caneday is a member of Temple Branch of the Theosophical Society and is also a member of the W. S. Rosecrans G. A. R. Post, No. 49, of Grantsburg. Mr. Caneday was married November 15, 1865, to Laura Maria Humphrey, daughter of Judge Noah Marcus and Velina (Hannum) Humphrey, of Taylors Falls. To this union three children have been born. Velina was born at Taylors Falls, June 20, 1867, and there grew to womanhood and married Donald H. McLean, of St. Paul. She died in Taylors Falls, Minn., July 14, 1902. Victor David was born November 30, 1870, and Verner Humphrey was born March 3, 1872.

**John Daubney,** now retired, one of the earliest settlers of Chisago county, was born in Lincolnshire, England, October 6, 1819, and came to the United States with his parents when about

seven years of age. The family settled in Chittendon county, Vermont, and there the father, William Daubney, engaged in farming for several years, when he moved to Kalamazoo, Mich., and settled in Richland township, where he engaged in farming until his death. John Daubney attended the district schools of Richland township, Michigan, and assisted upon the home farm. In 1844 he came to Galena, Ill., and worked in the lead mines. The next year, 1845, he came to Stillwater, Minn., where he engaged in lumbering on the St. Croix river, and its tributaries, one year. He followed this occupation about fifteen years, making his home at Taylors Falls and St. Croix Falls. About 1861 he gave up lumbering and purchased a farm of 176 acres in Amador township, Chisago county. This he improved, brought a part of it under cultivation and engaged in general farming and stock raising. About six years ago he disposed of the farm, which for some time previous he had been renting, the purchasing parties being the Electric Water Power Company, of Minneapolis. He moved his family to Taylors Falls in 1894 and has since continued to reside in his pleasant home on River street. In politics, Mr. Daubney is a Democrat. He was married April 7, 1859, at Richland, Mich., to Eveline Page, widow of Wilkinson Page who died in the Civil War, and daughter of Charles W. Spaulding, who was one of the early settlers of Barry county, Michigan, where he engaged in farming until his death. Mrs. Daubney was educated in the common schools of her native county and at Kalamazoo. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Daubney was born: Theoda J., born in Amador, Minn., February 13, 1863, died when eighteen years of age, and buried in the cemetery at Taylors Falls.

**George W. Dobney** was born in Pine county, Minnesota, May 8, 1858, and so far as is known, was the first white child to be born in that county. He was a son of William and Fannie (Gray) Dobney, the former of whom was born in Kalamazoo county, Michigan, and lived there until a man grown, receiving his education there, and assisting on the home farm. He came to Minnesota in the early '50s and engaged first in lumbering with his brothers and then along the Snake river for himself, in which business he continued for the remainder of his life. He also engaged in the mercantile business at Taylors Falls, where he settled about 1860. He purchased the sawmill at Balsam Lake, Wis., and operated the same the three years preceding his death, in May, 1871, at the age of thirty-nine years. He was a progressive and generous man, and his death at a comparatively early age robbed the county of a valuable citizen. His widow afterward married H. H. Newberry, of Taylors Falls, who is now deceased. Mrs. Newberry still lives at Taylors Falls. Unto William and Fannie Dobney were born two childrqen, the eldest being our sub-

ject and the other, Luella, wife of Dr. H. G. Murdock, of Taylors Falls. George W. Dabney received his education in the public schools of Taylors Falls and learned the trade of printer, following that business at Taylors Falls and Minneapolis, being employed for ten years in the latter city with the "Lumberman." He also worked several years for the Pioneer Fuel Company. In 1889 he returned to Taylors Falls and purchased the carding mill which was erected by Erastus Guard and operated by him several years. Since that date, Mr. Dobney has continued the carding business. He is also engaged in the real estate and fire insurance business, representing a number of old line companies. He is village recorder of Taylors Falls and has held that office for the last six years. ' He is also secretary of the school board, being a Republican in politics. Mr. Dobney was married December 25, 1882, to Ida U. Ruley, born in Prescott, Wis., daughter of Captain Russell and Mary (Barber) Ruley, the former of whom was born at Richmond, Va., June 10, 1836, and the latter at Akron, Ohio, September 15, 1836. Mr. Ruley was an early settler and followed steamboating on the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers. He died at Prescott, Wis., in June, 1894, and in that village his wife also passed away. Mrs. Dobney was educated at Prescott and remained there until her marriage. She is a member of the Methodist church. To Mr. and Mrs. Dobney have been born three children, all in Minneapolis, Minn.: Jessie was born February 4, 1884, and is now the wife of Professor George R. Greaves, of Dakota. He is a teacher in the public schools and they have one son, Ronald, born May 12, 1907. Hazel was born September 15, 1886, was educated in the public schools and resides at home. George W. was born November 29, 1887, was educated in the public schools of Taylors Falls, resides at home and works in the mercantile store of Hans Thoen, of Taylors Falls.

**Levi W. Folsom,** retired, for over fifty years an attorney at Taylors Falls, was born in Tamworth, N. H., September 25, 1821, and received his education in the academies at Gilmanton, N. H., and North Bridgton, Me., where he fitted himself for college. He taught for a short time in an academy at Hagerstown, Penn., and then at Jonestown, Penn. He was graduated from Pennsylvania college at Gettysburg in 1848, and then studied law at Gettysburg for a short time. He taught at Emaus institute near Harrisburg, Penn., for a short time, and then returned to his native place, again took up the study of law, and was admitted to the Maine and New Hampshire bars. He began practice in his home town, at the same time having charge of the schools of the town of Tamworth. Serving as secretary to the congressman from his district, he spent considerable time in Washington, D. C., and after-

wards taught school at Accotink, on Washington's old plantation, for one year. He then again practiced law in New Hampshire and later was engaged in doing some legal work in Michigan. During this time, in 1852, he visited his cousin, William H. C. Folsom, who was at that time living at Taylors Falls, the result being that he purchased property in that village, returned to New Hampshire, closed up his business there and in 1854 came here to make his permanent home. In connection with his law practice he did some lumber and real estate business, continuing in active life until a few years ago, when he retired. He is a Democrat in politics and has held practically all the offices in the village and school district. He served as president of the Chisago County bank, of which he was one of the organizers and has also been president of the Taylors Falls & Lake Superior railroad, now part of the Northern Pacific system, being instrumental in having the road put through to Taylors Falls. For four different campaigns he was the candidate for state senator, but each time went down to defeat with his party. For several years he was county commissioner. Mr. Folsom is a supporter of the Methodist church and for nearly half a century has been a member of the Masonic order. He was married in the spring of 1859 to Abbie S. Shaw, who was born at Skowhegan, Me., January 24, 1838, and educated at Salem, Mass., where her parents moved when she was a small child, afterwards coming west with a sister. To this union were born six children, four of whom are living: Jacob J., born February 5, 1860, is assistant cashier of the Farmers and Merchants' State bank, of Hinckley, Minn.; Walter, born November 2, 1863, is in the piano business at Little Falls, Minn. Walter married Cora Benham, of Hubbard, Minn., and they have one child, a daughter, Elizabeth Abbie, born February 20, 1908. Levi W., born September 16, 1870, died when one year of age. Howard, born September 14, 1873, married Annie McEachern, at Sandstone, Minn., in March, 1896, and lives at Spokane, Wash., where he is in the publishing business. They had one child, which died in infancy. Morris D., born June 6, 1879, is a music teacher in Minneapolis, Minn. Elizabeth, born December 11, 1867, died in infancy. Although somewhat enfeebled by old age, the subject of this sketch takes an active interest in current events, and thoroughly enjoys his home, where he has lived since 1857.

**Erastus Guard,** now deceased, was born in Harford, Penn., and received his education at that place, attending the common schools and the Harford university. He was a cabinet maker by trade and followed that occupation to some extent, being also a school teacher. He came to Taylors Falls about 1850 and engaged in carpenter work for several years, also working for some time as a cabinet maker. He enlisted in Company C, Sev-

enth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, as a musician and served until he was discharged because of sickness, which eventually caused his death. He was a Christian gentleman and took an active part in all that tended to improve the community in which he lived. He was a member of the Methodist church. Mr. Guard died at Taylors Falls April 9, 1878, and is buried there. He was married May 22, 1850, to Susan E. Fuller, born in Lenox, Penn., and educated in the schools there, coming west shortly after her marriage. She is also a member of the Methodist church. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Guard were born five children, two of whom are still living. Charles W. was born at Gibson, Penn., and died at Taylors Falls, Minn., when about eight years of age. Julia E. was born in Gibson, Penn., and died at Taylors Falls, at about three and one-half years of age. Susie I. was born in Taylors Falls and died there at two years of age. Edward D. was born at Taylors Falls and is a bridge builder employed by the government. He is now at New Germany, Minn., but makes his home at Taylors Falls. He married Minnie Berg, who was born at Taylors Falls. They have three children: Nancy Corrine, James Dayton and Ella May. These children were born in Taylors Falls. Nellie Lenore, the other surviving child of Mrs. and Mrs. Guard, was born at Taylors Falls and educated in the public schools. She has taught school for several years, including ten years at North Branch in this county. She is now teaching her second year at Taylors Falls. Mr. Guard built the carding mill at Taylors Falls and engaged in wool carding for a number of years.

**Royal C. Gray,** who died February 22, 1893, was born in Bakersfield, Vt., in October, 1832, and received his early education there, spending a large part of his boyhood in Vermont and Massachusetts. He came west in 1850 as a youth of eighteen years and located in Kanabec county, Minn., where he farmed and kept a public house at Greely station on the Kanabec river until 1860, when he returned to Massachusetts. In 1862 he came to the St. Croix valley and located at Taylors Falls, where he continued to make his home. He was employed by the St. Paul & Duluth Railroad Company for ten years as surveyor and explorer. During the last eight or ten years of his life he was estimater of pine lands for the railroad company and for the last three years he was in the real estate business. He was also a large owner of pine lands, which he had purchased at different times. Mr. Gray ran the carding mill which was built by Erastus Guard at an early date. He purchased this mill from Mr. Guard and conducted it as a wool carding mill for many years. Mr. Gray was a member of the Methodist church for nineteen years and a true Christian gentleman in every respect, being held in

the highest esteem by all who knew him. In all his business transactions he was strictly honest and was very successful in his various undertakings. On the organization of the county he was appointed by the governor as one of the commissioners of Kanabec county and held the office for two years. For some years he was president of the village board of Taylors Falls. In 1861 he was married to Ann E. Johnson, born in Franklin county, New York, in 1838. The marriage was performed in Holyoke, Mass., and there they lived two years. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Gray one son was born, his natal place being in the house where Mrs. Gray now resides and where she has made her home for forty-nine years. Born October 15, 1868, he was christened Orin J., and received his education at Taylors Falls and at Dixon college, Dixon, Ill. He is now residing at Portland, Ore., being a land inspector and purchaser for different lumbering companies. He married Lida K. Clendening, born at Taylors Falls, daughter of James and Mary Clendening, who were early settlers of St. Croix Falls and afterward moved to Taylors Falls. The father is now residing on his claim in northern Minnesota. Unto Orin J. Gray and wife one son has been born, Royal Clendening Gray, who was born at Taylors Falls, June 10, 1897. Royal has attended the public schools of Taylors Falls for four successive years without being absent or tardy. Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Gray had an adopted daughter, Mattie M., who died at Taylors Falls, June 14, 1885, of consumption at the age of sixteen years. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and was loved by all who knew her.

**Albert S. Knight,** postmaster, was born in Peru, Oxford township, Me., November 2, 1843. His father, who was a lumberman, died in Auburn, Me., and Albert came to Minnesota with his mother as a lad of thirteen years. They settled in Goose Creek, this county, and remained until 1863, when he and his mother moved to Sunrise, this county, remaining until 1870, when they moved to Taylors Falls, where Mr. Knight has since continued to reside, his mother having passed away in this village at the age of fifty-six years. During his residence in this place, Mr. Knight has been engaged in the confectionery business. For the past eight years he has also been postmaster. He is a Republican in politics and for one year was village marshal. Mr. Knight was married November 1, 1882, to Estella V. Seavey, born in Osceola, Wis., and partly educated there. She came to Taylors Falls as a young child and also attended the schools here. Her parents were Captain E. L. and Rebecca (Munson) Seavey, the former of whom was a lumberman who for some years was engaged in steamboating on the St. Croix. He is still engaged in the lumber business and he and his wife both reside in a pleasant home

in Pine City, Minn. To Mr. and Mrs. Knight three children were born, all claiming Taylors Falls as their natal place. Frank S. was educated in his native village and is assistant postmaster under his father. Patience X. was also educated in the Taylors Falls schools and teaches school. Marguerite was educated in the same schools and is now a school teacher. The family stands well throughout the community.

**John Nelson** was born at Algutsboda, Sweden, March 22, 1833, son of John Nicholson and Catherine Johnson Nicholson. He attended the public schools of his native place until sailing for America from Guttenburg, May 18, 1853, arriving at Taylors Falls, Minn., October 12 of that year, after a long and perilous voyage across the Atlantic aboard a small sailing vessel. Immediately upon his arrival in Taylors Falls, Mr. Nelson secured employment at the Chisago Hotel, now known as the Dalles Hotel—an old land mark in Taylors Falls. In 1854, Mr. Nelson joined the lumber camp of the Greeley Lumber Company, where he remained until the spring of 1855, when he obtained a position with James Russell, a farmer residing near Taylors Falls. He then returned to the Chisago House and remained three years in charge of the livery stable run in connection with that hostelry. Upon the expiration of his term of employment there, he again went into the northern pineries, where he worked for Oscar Roose until the spring of 1860, when he went west and spent eighteen months prospecting for gold in the mining camps of Colorado. Failing to find his fortune there he returned to Taylors Falls and was employed in the Andrew Glendenning lumber camp until his enlistment in Company D, Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in 1865. He spent several months with his regiment in the southern states before being mustered out at Fort Snelling. Returning to the pineries he remained until 1870, when he purchased a farm of eighty acres from Swan Olson, which, with subsequent purchases comprises his present farm of 260 acres near the village of Taylors Falls. He was married in 1870 to Matilda Hawkinson, of Center City, and they are the parents of two sons and three daughters: Charles William, Frank O., Ida, Mary and Annie, all of whom remain with their parents excepting the eldest son, Charles William, who lives in the village of Taylors Falls, where he is employed by the Northern Pacific Railroad Company.

**Carl Henning Peterson** was born in Shafer township, this county, August 24, 1872. His parents were John Gustave Peterson and Lena Hemmingson Peterson and his maternal grandfather was Henning Hemmingson, one of the pioneers of Chisago county. Carl H. Peterson was educated in the district schools of Shafer township and for several years assisted his father in the management of the home farm. He then went into the pineries in the

northern part of the state, where he remained seven years with E. L. Seavy Lumber Company, of Taylors Falls. He then returned to Taylors Falls, where he was married, October 9, 1904, to Hilda Moody, daughter of John Moody, of Taylors Falls. Since his marriage he has continued to live at Taylors Falls. To Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have been born two children: Carl Sanders Peterson, born June 5, 1905, and Lawrence Severn Peterson, born October 19, 1907. Mr. Peterson and his wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran church at Taylors Falls, and he was one of the most liberal contributors to the building fund for the present comfortable edifice. He is a member of the Republican party and is well and favorably known as a public spirited citizen of Chisago county.

**George William Strand,** proprietor of the Taylors Falls nursery, is the son of Peter A. and Anna Dedon Strand, both his paternal and maternal grandparents having been pioneer settlers of Chisago county. He attended the city schools of Taylors Falls and was graduated there; after which he learned the printers' trade, following same very successfully for several years, until his natural inclination prompted him to take a course in the State Agricultural College of Minnesota, graduating in 1897. During and following his college career he was employed by various nursery companies as salesman and at practical nursery labor until the fall of 1897, when he embarked in the nursery business at Taylors Falls, in which he has since continued. He now operates 140 acres, which is devoted to raising horticultural products adapted to the needs of the Northwest. He conducts his business by catalogue exclusively. Mr. Strand was married August 14, 1907, to Cora B. Cosgrove, daughter of C. N. Cosgrove, the present secretary of the Minnesota State Fair Association. Mr. Strand is himself treasurer of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society.

**Washington** village was platted in August, 1856, with W. F. Duffy as surveyor. The proprietors were James Y. Caldwell and L. C. Kinney. On this site the Starkey Indian battle was fought. Among the prominent men of the early days were John A. Brown, Patten W. Davis, James F. Harvey, Floyd S. Bates, Isaac H. Warner, Charles F. Lowe, Wells Farr, John G. Mold, George L. Blood, Joel G. Ryder and John Dean.

**Wyoming** township was settled by a colony from eastern Pennsylvania in 1855. The colony consisted of L. O. Tombler, Dr. John W. Comford, E. K. Benton and others, making in all ten families. Previous to this, however, a few Swedes had settled in the eastern part of the township. The town was organized in 1858 and the supervisors were J. W. Comfort, L. O. Tombler and

Fred Tepel. A postoffice was established at Wyoming with J. Engle as postmaster.

**Wyoming** village has a population of 200. It is on the Northern Pacific railroad, ten miles southwest of Center City and four miles north of Forest Lake. It has Catholic, Lutheran and Methodist churches, a creamery, a feed mill, a hotel, a grass twine plant, two saloons, a potato dealer, a land agent, a meat market, a livery barn, a produce depot, two general stores and a creamery. The village was surveyed and platted in 1869 by Ben W. Brunson. The proprietors were the members of the Western Land Association with L. Mendenhall as agent.

**Windermere** was organized as a town, June 3, 1882. The first supervisors were August Schog, William Champlain and Frank Bloomquist.

## CHAPTER LIX.

### PINE COUNTY.

**Earl History—Mission of Pokagama Lake—First Printing Press—Battle of Pokagama—Anecdotes of the Early Days—Rev. Boutwell's Experiences—Schools of Pine County—Notes of Interest.**

Pine county, before the organization of Minnesota territory, in 1849, was included within the limits of St. Croix county, Wisconsin. Until the organization of Chisago county, in 1852, it was in the limits of Ramsey county, and from thence until 1854 within the limits of Chisago county, when it was organized under its present name. Until 1858 it included the territory of the present counties of Kanabec and Carlton. There are many lakes within its borders—Cross, Pokekama, Pine and Sturgeon. Once the region was heavily timbered with pine, hence its name. The soil is fertile—a sandy loam with clay subsoil. A large quantity of cordwood, piles and ties are annually marketed by means of the railroad. The first crops raised in the county, except by traders and missionaries, were grown on the Greeley farm, on Kanabec river, near the western limits of the county, by Royal C. Gray. At the organization of the county, Herman Trott, George W. Staples and Royal C. Gray were appointed commissioners.

The county seat was located at Chengwatona, or the original Chippewa language, Cheng-Wak-O-dana, at the outlet of Cross lake, where a very fine water power exists. Here the Snake river forms rapids for several miles and the outlet at the lake is obstructed by a timber dam which has a flowage of over forty square miles. This gives an unlimited and constant supply for power. When the county was organized there were very few white settlers and these were chiefly interested in getting the vast area of pine under local control, where it could be cut off, leaving the tax obligations on the duplicates, as a legacy for future generations. The land was a secondary consideration; the pine, the primal. In consequence, the county became heavily involved and its orders were worth in the market what any risky fellow was willing to gamble on. Thirty cents on the dollar was about the average price. In 1872 the county seat was changed to Pine City and Hiram Brackett, George Goodwin and Edward Jackson were elected county commissioners; Adolph Munch, auditor, and

Don L. Williard, register of deeds. Measures of reform began to be the rule with the officers, but they were confined to collecting taxes of non-residents and allowing local taxes to lapse. The county finances were in a deplorable state. About this time a newspaper was established for the purpose of publishing the delinquent tax list, but as the editor was obliged to take county orders for his pay and these were hardly current at the saloon counters for the drinks, the publication was suspended. In 1868 the Lake Superior & Mississippi railway reached Pine City and in 1869 was extended north through the county and an era of increased activity began to dawn. In the year 1876 Fred A. Hodge was elected county auditor and the financial standing of the county gradually assumed a better shape.

The first district court was held in October, 1872, Judge Crosby, presiding; John D. Wilcox, clerk; Edward Jackson, sheriff. The first marriage license, issued in 1872, was to John Kelsey and Mary Hoffman. The first board of county officers, after the removal of the county seat, were: Commissioners, Hiram Brackett, George Goodwin and Edward Jackson; auditor, Adolph Munch; register of deeds, Don Willard; county attorney, treasurer and superintendent of schools, John D. Wilcox. The first article recorded by the register of Pine county was a military land warrant, No. 12702; in the name of Prudence Rockwell, located by William Orin Baker in township 38, subject to forty days preemption, dated at Stillwater, June 19, 1855; T. M. Fullerton register, assigned June 14, 1856, to Enos Jones. The second record is of a warranty deed from John Bradford to W. A. Van Slyke, of Ramsey county. In 1887 a bridge 800 feet long was built across the Kanabec river near Pine City, at a cost of $3,350 —the state appropriating $1,500 for the purpose.

Pokekama lake, five miles in length and one in width, is celebrated for its historical associations. Thomas Connors, an old trader, had a trading post on the banks of this lake about the year 1816. This was before Fort Snelling was built. Mr. Connors said there was a French trading post at Pokegama long before he went there. Jeremiah Russell had a farm there in 1847; and a Presbyterian mission was established there in the spring of 1836 by Rev. Frederick Ayer.

Frank Steele visited the mission, and in February, 1837, Rev. Mr. Hall organized a church of seven members—three of whom were natives. Mr. Hall, on the occasion of his visit solemnized two marriages, probably the first in the valley of the St. Croix. Rev. William J. Boutwell and Rev. Ely came to the mission in 1837.

It is perhaps unknown to many residents of Minnesota that the first printing press set up in the state was located on the old

Mission form on Pokegama lake. After the mission had been established the missionaries found themselves hampered by having no literature in the language of the Indians, and consequently the printing press was brought in, and the New Testament translated into the Ojibway language, the Indians being thus enabled to read the gospel truths in their own language.

A battle occurred at Pokegama in 1841, the Sioux having chosen that settlement as the place in which to avenge themselves for various wrongs, real or imaginary, including the killing of the two sons of Little Crow, a full account of which is found in the history of Polk county. The Sioux gathered in large numbers for their move against the Ojibways, and upon reaching Pokegama in the night time, stopped on the opposite side of the lake, two miles from the mission. The largest body went to the main settlement, and after examining the ground where they intended to operate, hid among the trees and brush back of the Indian gardens, with orders that all keep silent on both sides of the lake until a given signal, when the Ojibways were busy in their gardens and then make quick work of the slaughter which they planned. But this scheme failed. Most of the Ojibway women and children had, from fear of the Sioux, slept on an island half a mile out in the lake and were late in their gardens. While a loaded boat of Ojibways was approaching the opposite shore of the lake in the morning some Sioux, stationed there to cut off any attempt at escape, fired prematurely. This gave the alarm and saved the Ojibways. The Sioux then left their hiding places, and the battle commenced in earnest. The Ojibways were fortunate in not being hampered with their women and children, most of whom still remained on the island. The chief's house in the village was barricaded and many of the warriors gathered there, the remainder taking refuge in a house more exposed at the other end of the village. The battle was soon over, and not an Ojibway warrior had fallen, though the majority of the men and boys were wounded. Two young girls had been killed in a canoe when the Sioux fired their first volley. The Sioux took their dead and retreated. The bitter feeling remained between the tribes, and the Ojibways soon deserted the village. The feeling of unrest among the tribes also had the effect of preventing the settlement of several white colonies.

A man whose name was Harris was arrested at Rock Creek for stealing horses. George Hathaway started with the prisoner for Sunrise. Five days afterward Hathaway's dead body was found and the inquest decided that he probably met his death by stabbing or shooting at the hands of his prisoner, who made his escape, and was never again heard from. Mr. Hathaway was a native of Passawamkeag, Me.

March 22, 1884, a couple of young men, John Cope and William Leonard, were arrested for drunkenness and disorderly conduct and confined in the Pine City jail, a wooden structure. About three o'clock the next morning the jail was found to be on fire. All efforts to extinguish the flames or rescue the prisoners was unavailing. The fire originated from within, in all probability from the careless action of the prisoners themselves in striking matches, either for the purpose of smoking or of exploring their cells.

A well known character in the early days was Old Batice, known as "Kettle," who lived on the Kettle river. He was probably over 100 years old at the time of his decease. He is thought to have been half French. This man had a singular deformity. He was born without thumbs or big toes. The fingers and remaining toes resembled bird's claws. Two of the fingers on each hand and two of the toes on each foot were united to the tips, but had distinct nails. Three of his four children were disfigured in the same manner. Many of his grandchildren were born with still greater disfigurement, one of them having but one finger.

An Indian woman at Pokegama was badly burned by the explosion of gunpowder while she was putting it in a flask. Her face became terribly swollen and black. The missionaries did what they could for her, but thought that she must die. After two days the Indian doctors held a dance for her benefit. After they had gone through their peculiar antics, the woman arose and without assistance walked around distributing presents to all the participants in the ceremony. In a short time she was completely recovered.

On the banks of the Kettle river a five-year-old boy burned his hand severely. The mother after examining the wound, decided that it was incurable. She then ordered the little fellow to place his hand upon a block, and by a single blow from a common hatchet severed it from the wrist. The boy endured the suffering without flinching.

In giving an account of his reception by the Indians, the Rev. William T. Boutwell wrote as follows: "When I arrived the men, with a few exceptions, were making their fall hunts, while their families remained at the lake (that is at Leech lake) and its vicinity, to gather their corn and make rice. A few lodges were encamped quite near. These I began to visit for the purpose of reading, singing and the like in order to interest the children and awaken in them a desire for instruction. I told them about the children at Mackinaw, the Sault and at La Pointe, who could read, write and sing. To this they would listen attentively while the mother would often reply, "My children are poor and ignorant." To a person unaccustomed to Indian manners and Indian

wildness it would have been amusing to have seen the little ones, as I approached their lodge, running and screaming, more terrified, if possible, than as though they had met a bear robbed of her cubs. It was not long, however, before most of them overcame their fears and in a few days my dwelling, a lodge which I occupied for three or four weeks, was frequented from morning to night, by an interesting group of boys, all desirous to learn to read and sing. To have seen them hanging, some on my knee, others on my shoulder, reading and singing, while others, whether from shame or fear, I knew not, who dared not venture within, were peeping in through the sides of the cottage, lying flat upon the ground and looking under the bottom, might have provoked a smile; especially to have seen them as they caught a glance of my eye springing to their feet and running like so many wild asses' colts. The rain, cold and snow were alike to them, in which they came, day after day, some of them clad merely with a blanket and a narrow strip of cloth about the loins. The men at length returned and an opportunity was presented me for reading to them. The greater part listened attentively. Some would come back and ask me to read more. Others laughed and aimed to make sport of me and my mission."

Pine county is rapidly settling up, it has excellent schools, thriving towns and fine agricultural communities. Its beautiful lakes attract summer tourists and its pure air and health-giving waters animate the young, and invigorate age. There are several valuable copper mines in the county on which development work is active and prospects bright.

The dates of the platting of some of the early villages are: Neshodana, by Clark, Cowell and Foster, in 1856; Fortuna, by W. A. Porter, surveyor, in January, 1857; St. Johns, by M. L. Benson, surveyor, in October, 1857; Midway, by Frank B. and Julia L. Lewis, proprietors, in September, 1855.

Pokegama lake is a beautiful spot. The shores are high and well covered with forests, except when the farm openings occur and these are fertile, picturesque and grand. The lake abounds in fish and is fed by several streams of considerable volume, which afford fine breeding ground for fish, this keeping the stock fully replenished without resorting to importations. Pokegama lake, Cross lake and the connecting link, Snake river, form a flowage area of more than 150 square miles. At the foot of Cross lake is the celebrated Chengwatona dam. The site affords excellent water power facilities. This dam was built for driving purposes, but since the logs are no longer plentiful, the dam will doubtless be used for power purposes.

The schools of Pine county have reached a high grade of efficiency, and it has been stated that there is no county in the

state where the children in the grades are given better advantages. Many of the teachers and superintendents who have had charge of schools in the county have gone out to take high places in the educational world, the pupils who have diligently pursued the studies prescribed find themselves well equipped either for the ordinary needs of life or for the more advanced education of the higher schools and colleges. Morton Brien was the first county superintendent, serving from 1871 to 1872. Those who followed him were: James Cochran, 1873-1874; F. A. Hodge, 1875-1876; J. D. Wilcox, 1877-1878; L. H. McKusick, 1879-1880; J. D. Wilcox, 1881-1884; Ella Gordon, 1885-1888; J. H. Hay, 1889-1892; E. L. Stephan, 1893-1896; R. H. Blankenship, from 1897 to the present time. The present residence of three of these persons is not known. F. A. Hodge is a banker at Pine City; J. D. Wilcox has retired from active life and resides at Pine City; L. H. McKusick, county attorney of Pine county, also resides at Pine City; J. H. Hay is city superintendent of schools, Thief River Falls, and E. L. Stephan is a physician and surgeon at Hinckley, Minn.

The first school district was organized in 1868 at the county seat (Chengwatana). District No. 2, of Hinckley, was organized the same year, and District No. 3, Pine City, was organized the following year. These were the only districts in the county until 1875, when District No. 4, at Rock Creek, was organized. The total enrollment in 1876 was 193 pupils, with four organized districts, and three frame buildings with a total valuation of $3,860. The present enrollment is 4,367, with 82 districts and 109 school buildings, valued at $189,555.

The first state high school was instituted at Pine City in 1904, with Sandstone, Willow River and Hinckley following in quick succession. There are ten semi-graded schools, thirty-one first class rural schools and eleven second class rural schools.

At present there are 152 teachers employed. Eighteen are males and 134 females. Of this number sixty-three are high school graduates, thirty-five normal graduates, twelve college and university graduates, eleven with high school training, but not graduates, and sixteen with normal training, but not graduates. Practically the entire teaching force of the county have had either normal or high school training.

Following is the school directory of the county in 1908, with the number of district, name of clerk and postoffice address: 1—C. B. Gibson, Pine City, route 3; James Fleming, Hinckley, state high school; H. J. Rath, Pine City, state high school; 4—N. M. Stranberg, Rock Creek, semi-graded school; 5—James Percy, Sandstone, state high school; 6—Helen M. Conway, Rutledge, semi-graded; 7—J. P. Davis, Braham, route 1; first grade; 8—

George Tyllie, Mission Creek; 9—H. Taylor, Pine City, route 1; first grade school; two school buildings; 10—F. P. Dey, Rush City, route 2; first grade; 11—John Lyden, Sturgeon Lake, route 2; first grade school; three school houses; 12—Matz Peterson, Rush City, route 2; semi-graded school; 13—A. E. Stevens, Rock Creek; first grade; 14—N. F. Holger, Braham, route 1; first grade; 15—Adolph Bjork, Pine City, route 1; first grade school; 16—Stephen Dunaisky, Sturgeon Lake, route 1; three school houses; 17—John Lindgren, Rush City, route 2; 18—Peder Erickson, Duquette; first grade school; five school buildings; 19—Charles Upgren, Sturgeon Lake; two school buildings; 20—Mrs. Vernie Kinney, Banning; first grade school; three school buildings; 21—Herman Northrup, Willow River; state high school; 22—August Asmus, Pine City, route 4; two school buildings; 23—John Westman, Rush City, route 4; 24—O. J. Woodbeck, Brookpark; semi-graded school; 25—Anton Pavek, Pine City, route 3; first grade school; 26—Frank Sheforgen, Ellson; two school buildings; 27—Peter R. Overom, Sturgeon Lake, route 1; 28—John Shambouer, Pine City, route 1; 29—John Arth, Finlayson; first grade school; 30—Charles F. Stephan, Pine City; first grade; 31—J. B. Fohrmann, Brookpark; first grade; 32—George Van Kessel, Hinckley; first grade school; 33—J. W. Smith, Pine City, route 1; 34—Joseph Horejs, Beroun; first grade school; 35—D. Townsend, Friesland; first grade school; 36—Louis Wimmer, Rutledge; 37—C. A. Dosch, Finlayson; first grade school; 38—Nick Hoffman, Hinckley, route 1; first grade school; 39—William Zwiers, Hinckley, route 1; 40—M. M. Barnes, Sturgeon Lake; semi-graded; 41—John R. Johnson, Braham, route 1; 42—Charles Kane, Pine City, route 4; first grade school; 43—John Koksma, Hinckley; 44—Len Freeman, Hinckley; 45—Frank Baumchen, Beroun; 46—John DeFrang, Henrietta; first grade; 47—Mrs. Agnes N. Clark, Pine City; two school buildings; 48—Frank Runa, Beroun; first grade school; 49—Eugene Ryan, Finlayson; 50—N. G. Northolm, Rutledge; 51—Gustave Unger, Rutledge; two school buildings; 52—G. H. Forbes, Finlayson; first grade school; 53—August Ekberg, Pine City; 54—H. E. Crane, Bruno; semi-graded school; 55—A. L. Albrecht, Willow River; 56—P. H. Oukrust, Willow River; 57—J. B. Aures, Pine City, route 4; first grade school; 58—John Edstrom, Partridge; 59—W. D. Tracy, Pine City, route 4; 60—Charles Wendland, Hinckley; first grade; 61—A. F. Johnson, Sandstone, Box 111; 62—Henry Petry, Finlayson; 63—Andrew Jensen, Grasston; 64—Frank Rodenberger, Partridge; 65—Albin Hedin, Partridge; 66—A. E. McKay, Groningen; 67—C. W. C. Carlson, Groningen; first grade; 68—Mrs. M. J. Eastling, Brookpark; 69—Frank Drimel, Pine City, route 3; 70—John J. Vork, Sandstone; 71—William C. Holm, Partridge; semi-grade;

72—Ed. Chollett, Hinckley; 73—Mrs. Anna B. Purdy, Pine City, route 3; first class rural; 74—J. H. Frisendahl, Sandstone; first grade.

**Rev. Frederick Ayer,** whose missionary work had so important an influence upon the lives of the Indians in the early days of the county, was born in Stockbridge, Mass., in 1803. When he was two years of age his family moved to central New York. His father was a Presbyterian clergyman and intended that young Frederick should follow the same calling, but before he prepared for that profession his health failed and he turned his attention to other matters. He commenced his labors for the Indians in 1829 by teaching at the mission school at Mackinaw. In the summer of the following year he went to LaPointe, Lake Superior, and opened a school, commencing the study of the Ojibway language. In 1832, Mr. Ayer spent the winter with a trader at Sandy Lake, where he opened a school and completed an Ojibway spelling book, which he published at Utica, N. Y. He then became a member of the "American Board," and was sent to Yellow Lake. After considerable difficulty, the Indians were persuaded to allow the white man to erect a mission. In 1836 the mission was removed to Pokegama at the request of an Indian chief. In 1842 Mr. Ayer was ordained at Oberlin, Ohio, as minister to the Ojibways. After going from camp to camp for a time after his return to this part of the country, he settled at Red Lake and there he was joined by his wife and two little boys. In 1865 he and his wife offered their services to the freedmen of the South and were employed at Atlanta, Ga. There Mr. Ayer built a Congregational church and formed a temperance society, which at the time of his death numbered over 600 members. He was buried in the Atlanta cemetery, October 1, 1867.

## CHAPTER LX.

### PINE COUNTY.

**Banning — Beroun — Brook Park—Bruno—Cornell—Clint—Duquette—Ellson—Finlayson—Prominent Men — Friesland — Groningen—Henriette—Hinckley Village—The Great Hinckley Fire—Biography—Kerrick—Mission Creek—Hickerson—Partridge.**

**Banning** has a population of 150. It is twenty-five miles north of Pine City and four miles north of Sandstone. It is connected

**Beroun,** with a population of seventy, is located on the Northern Pacific railroad, six miles north of Pine City. It has a Catho-by stage with Groningen.
lic church and a sawmill as well as a hotel, a general store and a real estate office.

**Brook Park** is the center of a good farming country and has a large country trade. It is situated on the Great Northern railroad, twelve miles northwest of Pine City and eight miles southwest of Hinckley. It has Baptist, Methodist, German Lutheran and Evangelical churches. Among its business enterprises are general stores, sawmills, a feed store, a flouring establishment, a lumber dealer, a cigar store and a milliner. Two sawmills are also in operation at this point.

**Bruno** numbers 250 inhabitants. It is situated on the Great Northern railroad, forty miles northwest of Pine City and fourteen northeast of Sandstone. It has a Catholic and Presbyterian church, two sawmills, a hotel, two general stores, one saloon, two liveries, one meat market, one blacksmith shop, one warehouse and one hardware store.

**Cornell** is a station on the Great Northern railroad six miles north of Grasstown and two miles north of Henrietta.

**Clint** is nine miles southwest of Pine City and six miles northeast of Braham, which is its banking and shipping point.

**Duquette** has a population of 100. It is on the Great Northern railroad, forty-five miles northeast of Pine City and twenty-three miles east of Sandstone. It has a Catholic church, a sawmill, a saloon and a general store.

**Ellson** is forty-five miles northeast of Pine City and ten miles west of Willow River. It has two general stores.

## FINLAYSON.

Finlayson, which is on the Northern Pacific railroad, twenty-six miles north of Pine City, has a population of 150 persons. It has a bank, a hotel, a Methodist and three Lutheran churches, a weekly newspaper, one livery, two general stores, one sawmill, one saloon, one physician, one barber shop, one blacksmith shop and one meat market.

**Thomas Carroll,** son of Thomas and Elizabeth (McKinnon) Carroll, is a native of New Brunswick, Canada, born July 14, 1874. He received his education in the public schools of his native province and followed farming and lumbering until March 17, 1889, when he came to the United States and located at Holten, Me., working in a brick yard and at lumbering until 1892, when he removed to Berten, N. H., where he engaged in lumbering. In 1902 he came to Finlayson, Minn., and worked at lumbering for one winter. The following year he erected a livery stable, which he has since conducted with success, doing a rapidly increasing business and keeping ten head of horses. He is a Republican in politics and affiliates with the Modern Woodmen. He is at present a member of the village council. Mr. Carroll was married November 26, 1903, to Mary Greenly, of Finlayson, Minn., a native of Norway, daughter of Martin and Johannah (Gunderson) Greenly, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1887 and first located in Minneapolis, later in Sandstone, this county, and still later in Finlayson, where the father still lives. Mrs. Greenly died in the fall of 1905. To Mr. and Mrs. Carroll have been born two children: Charles K., born February 22, 1907, and Ernest G., born October 8, 1908. The family attends the Episcopal and the Methodist Episcopal churches.

**John M. Gowan** is a native of Stillwater, Minn., born March 3, 1861, son of John and Hannah (Curtiss) Gowan, natives respectively of New Brunswick, Canada, and Ireland. The father settled in Stillwater while still a young man. There he bought a large farm, married and brought up a family of children. He is now deceased and his widow still makes her home in Stillwater. John M. Gowan received his education in the Stillwater schools and took up farming with his father, also engaging in lumbering. For four years he was foreman for the American Grass Twine Company, of Wyoming, Minn. In February, 1905, he came to Finlayson, and purchased the Farmers' Exchange, erected a new building and now handles general merchandise and meat with his partner, J. H. Arth. Adjoining his store he has a pleasant residence and his business is rapidly growing. Mr. Gowan was married September 28, 1897, to Leah Du Rocher, born at Star Prairie, Wis., daughter of Alexander and Eloise

(Pepin) Du Rocher, natives of Montreal, Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Du Rocher came to Grand Rapids, Mich., where they were married, and later settled in Stillwater, where the father is a boat builder, both Mr. and Mrs. Du Rocher being still living. To Mr. and Mrs. Gowan have been born four children: Harold, born April 16, 1899; Agnes, born July 15, 1900; Norman, born November 22, 1902, and Eunice, born October 24, 1904. All are at home. Mr. Gowan is independent in politics and has never sought public office, although at one time he served on the village board. He had ten sisters and two brothers, while his wife has one brother and two sisters. Mr. Gowan stands well in the village and township. In August, 1908, Mr. Gowan opened a store at Rutledge, Minn., under the firm name of Gowan and Arth.

**John H. Lingren,** cashier of the First State bank, was born at Wexio, Sweden, February 28, 1877, son of Charles and Christina (Ed) Lingren, natives of Sweden, who came to America in 1883 and located at Chisago City, Minn., following farming there until 1892. In that year they moved to White Bear and conducted the North Oakes farm. While out hunting, September 14, 1893, Charles Lingren was drowned, a canoe in which he was seated having overturned with fatal result. The mother now makes her home with her daughter in St. Paul. John H. Lingren came to this country with his parents at the age of six years. He received his education at Chisago City and White Bear and concluded with a course in the Caton Business college at Minneapolis. After this he began clerking in a general store at Wyoming, Minn., later working in Chisago City, Minn., and Staples, Minn. In 1903 he opened a general store in Centuria, Wis., which he sold the same year to the Polk County Coöperative Company. In the spring of 1904 he entered into partnership with A. E. Johnson in the mercantile business at Chisago City, Minn., and continued until the spring of 1907, when this establishment also was sold to the Farmers' Coöperative Company of Chisago county. In July, 1907, he came to the village of Finlayson and entered the employ of the Bank of Finlayson. In March, 1908, the bank was incorporated as a state bank by M. W. Tuttle, C. W. Dixon and J. H. Lingren—the latter being the junior partner. He was elected cashier and has faithfully continued to perform the duties of that position. Mr. Lingren was married the first time, at West Union, Minn., June 10, 1903, to Tilda Lundquist, of that place. One child blessed this union: Helen, born May 27, 1904. Mrs. Lingren died October 6, 1904, at Chisago City and Mr. Lingren was married the second time to Valborg Faudskan, April 19, 1908, at Groningen, Minn. May 13, 1899, Mr. Lingren joined the United States army at Minneapolis, enlisting in Troop C, Fourth Cavalry. He served three years. For a year and a half he was in the Luzon

islands in the Philippines, and the last eight months of his service was on the general recruiting staff at Mobile, Ala. He was honorably discharged at that place May 12, 1902. A Republican in politics, Mr. Lingren is serving as village recorder. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and of the Modern Woodmen.

**John Adalbert Oldenburg,** owner and proprietor of the Oldenburg Mercantile Company, was born in Björneborg, Finland, July 14, 1862, son of Hampus Julius Oldenburg and Sophie Albertina Oldenburg (nee Sourander), the former a native of Stockholm, Sweden, and the latter of Björneborg, Finland. The father was the owner of the large match factory at Björneborg, Finland. John A. Oldenburg received his education at the college at Abo, Finland, and then served four years as office apprentice with Hackman & Co. at Wiborg, Finland. He came to America in 1881 and spent his first two years in this country in business pursuits in Boston, New York and Chicago. In 1884 he located in Minneapolis and entered the employ of the Bank of Minneapolis, where he held the position as manager of the foreign department for six years. He located in Finlayson in 1895 and entered the land business, being land agent for the St. Paul & Duluth and the Northern Pacific Railway companies. He owns 100 acres in the village of Finlayson and has erected a pleasant home thereon, called "Villa Blanca." The home is beautifully located on the banks of Lake St. John. Mr. Oldenburg also opened a large mercantile establishment, bringing city ideas and up-to-date methods into the business life of the village. He is a great traveler and has crossed the Atlantic ocean a dozen times. In 1903 he established the Bank of Finlayson and conducted same as a private bank for three years, after which he sold it to Tuttle & Dixon, of Lindstrom, Minn. He still continues in the mercantile business, having one of the largest and best stores in Pine county. Mr. Oldenburg was married, September 28, 1885, at Minneapolis, to Mary Melville de Marini, born in New York City, daughter of Dr. George C. de Marini, dentist to the imperial court of Russia. Mr. Oldenburg is a Republican in politics. For some time he served as postmaster of Finlayson and has held several public offices. In 1904 he was named as alternate delegate to the Republican national convention at Philadelphia. Mr. Oldenburg is a man of high character and lofty ideals. Wide travel has given him polish and grace of manners and he is a true gentleman in every respect. This sketch would not be complete without mention of what Mr. Oldenburg has done for the village of Finlayson. When he reached Finlayson he found it practically dead. His time, his money, his knowledge and his inspiration have all been devoted

to the progress of the village, and no one denies that the present status as one of the finest little towns in the county is due in a large degree to the efforts of Mr. Oldenburg.

**John Wyttenbach,** merchant, was born in Switzerland, September 2, 1864, son of Nicholas and Elizabeth (Hanne) Wyttenbach, natives of Switzerland, where the father is engaged in the mercantile business, having been postmaster since 1871. After receiving his education John engaged in the mercantile business and in 1887 came to America and located at West Bend, Iowa, until 1891. His next location was in Pine county, where he homesteaded a farm, built a house and carried on general farming until September 1, 1894, when, like so many others, he lost practically everything in the great Hinckley fire. After the fire he continued farming until 1907, when he rented his farm and moved to Finlayson village, where he opened a store. He erected a suitable building and is now engaged in the feed, flour, meat and farm implement business. Mr. Wyttenbach was married, July 3, 1888, at Emmetsburg, Iowa, to Wilhelmina Bruhn, born in Rugen, Prussia, Germany, September 24, 1871. Mrs. Wyttenbach was a devoted wife and mother and her death, March 29, 1908, was a severe blow to her family and friends. She was a woman of loving Christian character, sweet personality and cheerful and helpful disposition, and the influence she exerted over all of those with whom she came in contact was always helpful. So greatly was she esteemed for her good works that all the business houses in the village closed during the hour of her funeral. To Mr. and Mrs. Wyttenbach were born eight children: Hattie, born December 10, 1889; Otto, born July 17, 1891; Walter, born December 25, 1896; Francis, born March 8, 1898; Martin, born May 8, 1900, and died September 16, 1900; Emma, born August 30, 1902; John, born December 4, 1904, and Albert, born May 15, 1906. A Democrat in politics, Mr. Wyttenbach is now school director, in which position he has served many years. He has also served several terms as town clerk.

**Friesland** is on the Northern Pacific railroad, eighteen miles north of Pine City and five miles southwest of Sandstone. It has a Dutch Reformed church, a hotel, a school, one general store, a blacksmith shop and a livery stable.

**Groningen** is on the Northern Pacific railroad, twenty-three miles north of Finlayson. It has two general stores and a dealer in lumber.

**Henriette** has a population of seventy-five. It is on the Great Northern railroad, nineteen miles northwest of Pine City and six miles north of Grasstown. It has a hotel, a saw mill, a school, two general stores, a saloon and a lumber dealer.

## HINCKLEY.

**Hinckley** is a thriving village of 550 people, situated on the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern railroads. The Grindstone river furnishes its water power. It is in the west central part of the county, thirteen miles from Pine City and seventy-seven miles north of St. Paul. It has Swedish Lutheran, Catholic and Presbyterian churches, three hotels, a bank, a turpentine plant and a public school. A weekly newspaper, "The Enterprise," is published. The village ships farm products, cattle, ties and wood. Land is worth from $10 to $25 per acre. There are two express offices, four real estate offices, a shoemaker, a livery, a milliner, several general stores, a flour and grain dealer, a barber, a dealer in farm implements, two blacksmiths, a drug store, a hardware store, a meat establishment, a lumber company, one lawyer and one physician.

Hinckley village was incorporated in 1885 and the first officers were: President, James J. Brennan; recorder, S. W. Anderson; trustees, James Morrison, Nels Parson and John Perry; treasurer, John Burke; justices of the peace, John Brennan and A. B. Clinch; constable, Andrew Stone. The township of Hinckley was organized in 1872.

Very little that is reliable can be obtained of the early history of Hinckley. All the records of the village were destroyed in the disastrous forest fire that destroyed the town in 1894, but its history is known to be one of hardships and vicissitudes. The home of the lumberjack and the saw mill in its early days and its soil considered worthless, its growth was very slow until within the last few years, during which the soil in the vicinity has been found by the farmers who have had the temerity to experiment with it to be very productive and in which manufacturers have begun to realize its advantages as a shipping point.

In 1868 or 1869 Carmichael & Mulvey began logging operations near where the village now stands, and in 1869 W. H. Grant came from St. Paul with a portable saw mill that was brought by teams over the old government road that was cut through from St. Paul to Fond du Lac near the head of the great lakes and was used in carrying supplies to the fort at Fond du Lac and runs within two and a half miles of Hinckley. It was in 1869 also that James Morrison, the oldest resident of Hinckley today, came here, and to whose memory is due about all that is known of the early history of the town. It was also in 1869 that the survey was made through here for the old St. Paul & Duluth railroad, and the road ran its first train into Hinckley in the winter. Early the next year a dam was built across the Grindstone river by Grant and the McKane brothers, and in the fall a larger saw mill was built that obtained its power from the water. This saw mill was

enlarged several times under several owners, and at the time of the fire in 1894 was employing about 400 men. Hinckley was made the division point on the new railroad and was the supply point for numerous logging camps. This made its growth rapid, and it incorporated as a village about 1886. The names of the first council cannot be learned, but H. H. Scott was president and James Morrison was one of the trustees. The village had previously been platted by Philadelphia parties. The growth of the young town continued until in 1894. It had attained a population of about 1,700. It was in this year the most disastrous forest fire in the history of the state, and probably in the United States, destroying every building and burned to death many of its residents. By an act of the legislature in 1896 a beautiful granite shaft was erected just east of the village in the little cemetery where four trenches hold the mortal remains of the 248 unidentified dead. There is a speaker's stand here and each year on September 1 memorial services are held in their honor. At these exercises some speaker of national or state prominence is present and almost the entire community gather. After the fire amid the desolation about fifteen or twenty determined residents, among whom were Lee Webster, J. T. Craig, H. D. Davis, John Currie and Dr. D. W. Cowan, met to consider the advisability of trying to rebuild the town. The prospect was disheartening because nothing could be seen that would ensure permanent growth. The soil was considered worthless and the timber that had supported the town was gone. But the decision was reached to do what could be done towards rebuilding, and largely through the aid of the commission that had been appointed by the governor to distribute the funds that had been subscribed to relieve the sufferers, houses were at once erected.

Little growth was made, however, for several years. It was then found that the despised soil, instead of being worthless, was very fertile. Since this discovery was made the growth has been very rapid, and between the census of 1900 and that of 1905 the population of the township of Hinckley, that now comprises the towns of Hinckley, Barry and Clover, more than doubled. Since 1905 the increase has been more rapid, and where a few years ago were nothing but blackened stumps now are appearing the homes of settlers and well-kept farms. These farmers are raising all kinds of grains and grasses and much small fruit, but are devoting most of their time to dairying, the growth of which has been phenomenal. Nearly $250 per day was paid out for cream during the flush of the season of 1908, an amount more than four times larger than was paid out two years previous. There is every indication of Hinckley being within a few years a large manufacturing center, and several industries are now about to locate there.

## THE HINCKLEY FIRE.

September 1, 1894, was a sad day in the history of Pine county. For over a month the fires had been smouldering in the swamps and gradually spreading in all directions in the northern part of Chisago county and the southern part of Pine county. No rain had fallen for nearly a month and the forests and farms were like tinder. On the morning of September 1 a smart breeze sprang up from the south, fanning the fires, which extended over thousands of acres southeast and west of Hinckley into a fierce flaming heat, so hot that the air seemed to be decomposed in certain localities, leaving a sort of vacuum filled with inflammable and explosive gases; entirely at rest at times, notwithstanding the brisk south wind. Under ordinary circumstances there would have been time to seek safety in flight and even to have removed goods if no greater danger menaced them than an ordinary forest fire with a river so near. But when the first burst over the town it came in fierce explosions and in streaks, with suffocating choking gases that paralyzed the victims even before the burning. Dogs, cats, chickens and stock were stricken instantly and died in their tracks without serious burns. In one instance a man was stricken down, but not burned enough to destroy his clothes, and in one of his pockets was found a small leather purse in which were four silver dollars welded together in one solid piece. Car wheels were melted and welded to the rails instantly. These things were done by the deadly gases, or by a fierce short circuit of electricity. The elements melted with "fervent heat" and the people were calling on the rocks and mountains to hide them from the power that was dealing the deadly destruction. Mission Creek, Hinckley and Sandstone seemed to be in the direct path of the demon. Those who were stricken to death never knew an agony. It was done in an instant, in the "twinkling of an eye," and they probably died painlessly. It was only the survivors who suffered. They were to a degree out of the track of the deadly gases and their disasters were caused by the fire only. Four hundred and fifty-nine people perished in the two villages of Hinckley and Sandstone and the structures in these places were virtually wiped out. It was no ordinary fire. It came too quick for analysis. It baffled science. It could not be accounted for. It was a phenomenon that baffles all description. It is doubtful if any fire that may have wrought destruction in this country ever possessed the power of that which destroyed Hinckley and Sandstone.

**John M. Currie** was born May 1, 1861, in Ontario, Canada, son of John and Margaret (Mitchell) Currie, natives of Scot-

land, who came to Ontario in the early fifties, bought 120 acres of land, broke and improved the same, and erected the necessary buildings, carrying on general farming until the father's death in 1896. The mother now makes her home on the old homestead in Ontario. John M. Currie received his education at the Ontario Collegiate Institute, teaching until coming to America in 1883. He lived in Florida a short time and then located in Kanabec county, Minnesota, acting as bookkeeper in a general store for several years until 1890, when he engaged in the lumber business for two years. Coming to Hinckley in 1892, he purchased a drug store and conducted the same for five years. He then sold the drug store and engaged in the real estate business, in which he still continues. He handles a large amount of lands. Mr. Currie is a Democrat and was clerk of the village schools for nine years. He belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Currie was married at St. Cloud, Minn., to Amy Conger, of Mora, Minn., daughter of Ira and Leona (Bunker) Conger, of New York state and Massachusetts, respectively. For a time the father engaged in the mercantile business in Mora, Minn., where he still lives, having now retired. To Mr. and Mrs. Currie have been born eight children: Ethel, Earl, Beatrice, Clarence, John, Genevieve, Sidney and Kenneth, all living at home. The family attends the Presbyterian church.

**Jacob J. Folsom,** banker, was born in Taylors Falls, Minn., February 5, 1863, son of Levi W. and Abbie S. (Shaw) Folsom, the former of Tamworth, N. H., and the latter of Salem, Mass. The father came to Taylors Falls, Chisago county, in 1852, where he engaged in the law and real estate business. The mother came in 1857. They still reside at Taylors Falls, enjoying the fruits of a long life. Jacob J. Folsom was educated at Taylors Falls, going into business when he was seventeen years old. In 1886, in company with his brother, Walter, he put in a general stock of merchandise in the "old Folsom store," where they did a very successful business until 1890, when they closed out their stock, and Jacob J. went to Long Prairie, Minn., where he was employed in the real estate business. In 1895 he came to Hinckley and purchased the "Enterprise," the weekly paper just reëstablished after the fire, and continued as proprietor and manager of the same until he sold it in 1903 to W. C. Warren, the present proprietor. In 1898 he went into partnership in the real estate business with W. H. Nowark, they acting as local agents for the land department of the St. Paul & Duluth Railway Company, and in this capacity he was instrumental in settling the country around Hinckley, selling many thousand acres of land. Mr. Folsom also established, owned and managed the Bank of Hinckley, establishing same in 1901 and sell-

ing to the present proprietors in 1903, at which time he went to Pine City and purchased the "Pine Poker," running same for one year, after which he disposed of that, going to Sandstone, where he bought stock in and with his brother, Howard, actively managed the Ideal Lumber Company until 1905, when they sold their interests and moved to Spokane, Wash., engaging in the publishing business at that place. He returned to Hinckley in July, 1908, and is now with the Farmers' & Merchants' State Bank of that place. He is a member of the Elks, the Odd Fellows and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is a Democrat in politics and has served in town and village offices. He is an estimable citizen in every respect.

**William Kibbee.** One of the industries of Pine county which is still in its infancy, but which promises to be of great importance in the future is that of mining. Mining engineers and assayists declare that the substratas of the county are rich in various minerals, especially gold and copper, and operations which have been conducted have justified this opinion. Two mines which have splendid chances of success are the Great Northern Copper Company, which has been proved up and yields about $17.23 gold and copper to the ton, and the Keweenaw Western Development Association, which is now in operation, yielding thirty-eight pounds to the ton. These mines are about five miles from the village of Hinckley. William Kibbee is superintendent and a director of both of these companies, and his entergetic work and confidence, as well as expert knowledge and enthusiasm, have added much to the success of these two ventures. Mr. Kibbee is sanguine as to the future of mining in the county and has made many interesting investigations along these lines.

The president of the Great Northern Copper Company is C. E. Ovenshire; treasurer A. H. Cunningham, both of Minneapolis. Of the Keweenaw Association Judge W. H. Skemp is chairman; F. V. Inskeep, president, and Gust Berglund, treasurer.

**James Morrison** is a native of Sidney, Nova Scotia, born in October, 1840, son of John and Mary (McIsaac) Morrison, natives of the northern part of Scotland. Upon coming to North America they located and homesteaded property at Mira River, near Sidney, in Nova Scotia, taking up 220 acres. This they broke and improved, making their residence there for the remainder of their lives. The father died in 1894 and the mother passed away in 1902. James Morrison received his education at Mira River and engaged in coal mining on Cape Breton Island, near Bridgeport, following this occupation for five years. Subsequently he was employed on the water works at Halifax, Canada, and in 1869 came to Hinckley, surveying for the North-

ern Pacific road. In 1870 he worked for a period of fourteen months in the sawmill of W. H. Grant, then resumed work for the Northern Pacific for two years. Locating in Hinckley village, he bought a lot and built a home, shortly afterward erecting a three-story hotel, which he conducted until 1892. He then rented the hotel until 1894, when it was destroyed September 1 by the great Hinckley fire. After the fire he built a dwelling house and saloon, then rented the saloon and visited Cape Breton Island until 1899. Returning to Hinckley, he sold his property and went to Sandstone and bought the Northern Hotel, renting it for four years. In the spring of 1905 he came back to Hinckley and purchased a home, where he now resides, being engaged in mine exploring to some extent. Mr. Morrison is a Democrat in politics, has served as school treasurer eleven years, also as member of the village council and as road overseer. While at Bridgeport, Cape Breton Island, he served as a member of the Canadian Volunteers. Mr. Morrison was married in 1873 to Mary Mullen, of Ireland, who died in August, 1895. He was then married at Sandstone, Minn., to Mrs. Mary A. MacCadden, daughter of John and Mary (Freeman) Boyd, of Ireland. John Boyd and his wife moved to Canada and died there, the former in 1888 and the latter in 1895. The family faith is that of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Morrison is a law abiding citizen and is much respected by all who know him.

**Ward S. Morse,** hardware dealer, was born in Reedsburg, Wis., September 2, 1886, son of George T. and Belle (Ward) Morse, the former a native of New York state and the latter of Iowa. The father was a banker in his native state, in Springfield, Ill., and in Lincoln, Ill., and later engaged in the same business at Reedsburg, Wis., being president of the Citizens' Bank there, a position which he still holds. The parents were married in Dubuque, Iowa, June 4, 1879. Ward S. Morse was educated at St. John's Military Academy at Delafield, Wis., and attended the Mechanics' College at Chicago. Later he attended the Armour Institute at Milwaukee. After this he took a clerical position with Farwell, Ozmun, Kirk & Co., of St. Paul, for four years. May 10, 1907, he purchased a hardware business at Hinckley, which he has since continued, having a constantly increasing trade. He carries about $10,000 worth of goods and has a store that is up-to-date in every particular. Mr. Morse is at the present time alderman of the village and is known as one of the progressive citizens of the county. He belongs to the Odd Fellows and votes independently. Miss Emma W. Morse, of Reedsburg, Wis., who is musical in her tastes and has traveled extensively abroad, is a sister of Mr. Morse and was born in Reedsburg, Wis., in 1882. Mr. Morse was married at St.

Paul, August 22, 1907, to Edith G. McMahon, of that city, born May 17, 1885, in Eau Claire, Wis. She came to St. Paul in 1887 and remained until the time of her marriage. Her father is engaged in the mercantile business, and she has one sister, Mrs. Abbey Loughren, whose husband is in the lumber business in Cogswell, N. D., having previously been employed until about a year ago in the offices of the Great Northern railroad at St. Paul. Although Mr. Morse has been here but a comparatively short time, he has established for himself a place in the business and social life of the community, and he is highly regarded by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

**John H. Mullen** was born at St. Paul, Minn., April 29, 1882, and received his education in the graded and high schools of that city. After leaving school he took up engineering and surveying for the government eight months, then started surveying in Pine county. In 1905 he was appointed deputy county surveyor and in 1906 was appointed United States deputy surveyor for the state of Minnesota. The same year he was elected county surveyor of Pine county and in July 1907 received the appointment as superintendent of highways for the county. He held the latter position one year, and in October, 1908, was named as assistant engineer for the state highway commissioners. In addition to this he has just been re-elected county surveyor for the years 1909-10. Mr. Mullen is a member and at the present time is serving as treasurer of the Minnesota Engineering and Surveying Society. He is also secretary and treasurer of the Minnesota Roadmakers' Association. In politics he is a Republican and his religious affiliation is with the Episcopal church.

James H. Mullen is the son of John T. and Abbie (Harston) Mullen.

**Dr. Ernest L. Stephan,** physician and surgeon, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, January 28, 1869, son of Daniel and Mary L. (Twitchell) Stephan. The father was a native of Germany. He came to America in 1832 and located at Sheboygan, Wis., later going to Cleveland, Ohio. The mother was born in New York states, of English descent. Daniel Stephan was a farmer in early life. For twenty years he was municipal judge in Cleveland, Ohio, and in this capacity is still remembered by the older residents of that city, more especially the lawyers. He died in Pine City, Minn., October 17, 1887, and his widow passed away in Kansas, May 10, 1900. Ernest L. Stephan received his education in Kansas and in the University of Minnesota, graduating from the latter institution in 1893. He came directly to Hinckley and took up the practice of medicine and surgery, which he has since continued with great success. He is skilled in his profession and

is respected as a citizen and loved as a friend. He bought some land and in 1904 erected a pleasant home at the corner of Second street and Third avenue in the city. His office is well equipped with all the latest appliances. He owns two farms in Hinckley, a fruit farm in California and timber land in Oregon, but declares that he prefers the St. Croix valley to any part of the west. His preference has been demonstrated by the fact that he remains here in spite of many flattering opportunities elsewhere. Dr. Stephan belongs to the State and National Medical associations and keeps well abreast of the times in his profession. He is local physician and surgeon for the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern. He has been county superintendent of schools, deputy coroner and village mayor. He is also a member of the alumni of the Minnesota university. Fraternally he affiliates with the Modern Woodmen, the United Workmen, the Foresters and the Knights of Pythias. The doctor was married June 10, 1896, at St. Paul to Clara Hay, of Pine City, Minn. She is the daughter of James and Margaret Hay, natives of Canada, who located in Pine City in 1885. Both parents are now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Stephan have been born two children: Helen R., born March 27, 1898, and Angus H., born in January, 1902.

**Charles T. Swain,** president of the village council, was born in Poweshiek county, Iowa, March 20, 1862, son of Edward and Angeline (Gorsuch) Swain, the father a native of Delaware and the mother of Maryland. They came to Iowa in 1855, purchased 120 acres, broke and improved the land, erected the necessary buildings and carried on general farming until the death of the father, September 28, 1905. The mother died July 3, 1895. Charles T. Swain received his education in the schools of Iowa, and then taught school in Nebraska one year. For three years he followed railroad construction work, and for five years was employed in the C., B. & Q. offices at Council Bluffs, Iowa. Subsequently he engaged in the real estate business in Kansas for a time and then moved to Guernsey, Iowa, engaging in the implement business two years. The following four years saw him at Sibley, Iowa, engaged in the abstract and real estate business. In 1901 he came to Hinckley and became interested in the land business, which he has followed to some extent since that date. He owns 800 acres, all in Pine county. Mr. Swain was married December 27, 1886, at Milan, Ill., to Emma B. Smith, of that place, born in Tidioute, Penn., July 6, 1867, daughter of Salmeron and Evelin (Gilson) Smith, natives of Vermont and New York states respectively. The father engaged in the oil business in Pennsylvania, and died March 21, 1891. The mother is still living, making her home with Mr. Swain. To Mr. and Mrs. Swain have been born two children: Russell, born at Council Bluffs,

Iowa, September 14, 1890, and Robin, born at Hinckley, December 6, 1902. Mr. Swain is a Republican in politics. He has served as chairman of the town of Barry for four years and in March, 1908, was elected to his present position of president of the village council. For one year he had charge of the poor farm for the county. In 1908 he installed a cement plant, which has already made a success, the output including tiling, cement blocks and sidewalk work. In addition to his other holdings, Mr. Swain owns a fine dwelling on East Third street, where he now resides. The family worships at the Presbyterian church. Although he has been at the head of the village only a few months he has already demonstrated his right to the position by the qualities which he has shown in his management of public affairs.

**George G. Wallick** was born in Victor, Iowa county, Iowa, August 4, 1866, son of John and Elizabeth (Rockwell) Wallick, natives of Ohio. In early manhood, John Wallick moved to Victor, Iowa, and engaged in stock buying and in the implement business until his death, September 7, 1889. The mother passed away August 7, 1892. George G. Wallick received his education in the public schools and took up the printing business for six years. After two years in the mercantile business in his native city, Mr. Wallick entered the railroad service at Rock Island, Ill. March 27, 1898, he suffered the loss of an arm by a fall between an engine and a car, and for several years thereafter he was employed in the water works department of the city of Rock Island. In February of 1905 he came to Hinckley, Minn., and bought a fine piece of farm property on which he erected buildings and where he has since carried on general farming. Mr. Wallick is a Republican in politics and is now serving as city clerk. He belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen and the family attends the Methodist Episcopal and the Congregational churches. Mr. Wallick was married June 25, 1888, to Mary Alice Swain, daughter of Edward and Angeline Swain, of Victor, Iowa. Three children have blessed this union: Cora M. was born September 20, 1889; Edward A. was born May 18, 1891, and Angeline E., born March 7, 1893.

**Walter C. Warren,** a talented newspaper man of Pine county, was born in Millbury, Mass., a descendant of Mayflower stock, numbering among his ancestors the loyal John Alden and the demure Priscilla. General Warren, the hero of Bunker Hill, was a brother of one of Mr. Warren's ancestors. Mr. Warren is now located at Hinckley, where he edits the Hinckley "Enterprise," a newsy paper, which covers the local field in a comprehensive manner, and also contains a wide variety of news matter and general reading, Mr. Warren's own able writings forming an important part of the contents of the paper. In addition to the

"Enterprise" he is the editor of the Brookpark "Press" and the Partridge "Wing." In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Warren was married in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1891, to Emma Keffer, by whom he has three children: Chester Albert, Llewellyn Everard and Ruth.

**Kerrick** has a population of eighty-five people. It is on the Great Northern railroad, thirty-nine miles from Pine City and twenty-one miles northeast of Sandstone. It has two saw and lath mills, one general store, one land agent, one sand moulding establishment and one saloon.

**Mission Creek** is situated on the Northern Pacific railroad, ten miles from Pine City and three miles south of Hinckley. It has one general store.

**Nickerson** has a population of 100 people. It is located on the Great Northern railroad, forty-nine miles northeast of Pine City and twenty-seven miles northeast of Sandstone. It has one saloon and one general store.

**Partridge** is situated on the Great Northern railroad, twenty-eight miles northeast of Pine City and six miles northeast of Sandstone. It has a general store, a nursery, a sawmill and newspaper.

CHAPTER LXI.

## PINE COUNTY.

**Pine City Village—Biography—Rock Creek—Rutledge—Sandstone—Biography—Sturgeon Lake—Willow River—Prominent Men.**

### PINE CITY.

Pine City is an incorporated village of 1,100 and the judicial seat of the county. It is located on the Northern Pacific railroad, sixty-four miles north of St. Paul and eighty-nine miles southwest of Duluth. It has saw, shingle and flour mills, a brewery, an opera house, two banks, two hotels, a brickyard, an electric light plant, a creamery, Catholic, German Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian and Adventist churches, and a high and a graded school. Two weekly newspapers, the "Pine Poker" and the "Pioneer," are published. Unimproved land is worth from $5 to $20, and improved land, $25 to $50 per acre. The exports are lumber, railroad ties, flour and farm and dairy produce. There are several lawyers and a physician, and among the business establishments are a feed store, grocery store, blacksmith, shoe dealer, barber, drug store, saloons, laundry, general stores, livery, insurance agency, real estate offices, clothing establishment, boat builder, milliner, meat market, furniture dealer, tailor, brickyard and hardware store. The village of Pine City was platted in 1869. The original proprietors were James and Stephen H. Petrie, Catherine Sloan and Luther Mendenhall. The survey was made by B. W. Brunson. William Branch acted as attorney and the acknowledgment was made by J. J. Egan, notary-public, of St. Louis county. The village was organized in 1881, but the officers did not qualify until the following year. The oldest settler was probably a Mr. Kirkland, of Quincy, Ill., who worked for some time on the banks of Cross lake, on the present site of Pine City, hoping to be able to plat a colony there. He became disheartened, probably by the Indian troubles, and left in 1841, abandoning his scheme. One of the show places of the village is "Robinson Park," donated by Captain Richard G. Robinson. The township of Pine City was organized in 1874 and the first supervisors were Hiram Brackett, H. B. Hoffman and James Griffith.

**The First State Bank** of Pine county was organized at Pine

City, December 26, 1896, with a capital stock of $10,000. The incorporators were Fred A. Hodge, Carrie G. Hodge and P. W. McAllen. The officers were: Fred A. Hodge, president; P. W. McAllen, vice president; J. D. Boyle, cashier. These gentlemen have held their respective positions since the opening of the bank. Below is the statement of the condition of the bank at the close of business, November 27, 1908: Resources—Loans and discounts, $122,683.10; banking house and fixtures, $4,144.76; due from banks, $58,179.95; checks and cash items, $266.64; cash on hand, $5,526.06; total, $190,800.51. Liabilities—Capital stock, $10,000; surplus, $2,000; undivided profits, $345.20; deposits, $95,287.49; demand certificates, $6,458.92; time certificates, $76,-683.90; sundry collections, $25; total, $190,800.51. Since its organization this bank has paid dividends to its stockholders to the amount of $67,980. In 1896 a brick building was erected and well equipped throughout, and the bank it now enjoying a period of much prosperity.

**The Pokegama Sanatorium** opened its doors at Pine City for the treatment of cases of incipient tuberculosis May 1, 1905. It is beautifully located on a peninsula containing about thirty-five acres between Lake Pokegama and an extension of the Snake river, which is known as South Lake. These lakes to the north and south of the institution assure the patients of a dust-free atmosphere, a very important requisite for those suffering with the beginning of consumption. The forests on the main land also filter the air which comes through them from the west, and they afford beautiful walks and resting places during the summer and fall months. The opportunities for amusement include these visits to the woods as well as sailing, rowing and fishing upon the lakes. The farm, which is in the neighborhood of the institution, supplies the table with products of its dairy and its garden. The dairy barn is one of the best in Pine county, thoroughly modern and hygenic in its construction. The cows are fed throughout the winter from a large silo, and no precaution is omitted to assure a clean milk supply. During the first year Dr. H. Longstreet Taylor, of St. Paul, and Dr. R. L. Wiseman, of Pine City, attended to the medical work of the institution. Dr. R. L. Wiseman retired during the second year. Dr. C. B. Teisberg is now the resident physician and superintendent of the institution, while Dr. Taylor is consulting physician and makes weekly visits.

The sanatorium has accommodations for thirty-six patients, and is a thoroughly modern open air institution for the treatment of cases which are in the first stage of consumption. All of the sleeping quarters for the patients are open on one side, which practically requires them to sleep out of doors. The sanatorium is open all of the year.

SANATORIUM AT LAKE POKEGAMA

**John W. Axtell** is a native of Clayton, Wis., born December 29, 1855, son of John and Emeline (Berry) Axtell, natives respectively of Maine and Vermont. They came west in 1844, located at Clayton, Wis., pre-empted 160 acres of land, proved up their claim, built a fine home and remained on the place until 1858, when they sold out and moved to Casco, Wis., where the father engaged in farming, milling and real estate business until 1865. In that year they moved to Hortonville, Wis., and there the father conducted a flour mill until 1874. His declining years were spent in farming at Muckwa, Wis., where both he and his wife died. John W. received his education in the common schools of Hortonville, Wis., after which he moved with his parents to Muckwa, Wis., where he helped on the farm. In 1885 he came to Minnesota and located at Pine City, engaging in the carpenter business for several years. Later he established a planing and custom feed mill, in which business he now continues. Mr. Axtell was married December 30, 1876, at New London, Wis., to Nellie Heath, of Muckwa, Wis., daughter of John Heath. To this union eight children were born, six of whom are living. They are: Archie W., Albert E. (deceased), Millie (deceased), John, Emeline, Delta M., Glenn F. and Nellie E. Mr. Axtell is a Republican and worships at the Methodist Episcopal church.

He was village recorder six years and has served on the board of education nine years.

**Congressman J. Adam Bede,** one of the most distinguished residents of Pine county, was born on a farm in Lorain county, Ohio, in 1856, and attended the Ohio public schools. He supplemented this training with a course in a business college and later in life studied law. As a young man he learned the printers' trade and taught school and for twenty years was employed as a writer on newspapers in the West and South. Originally Mr. Bede was a Republican, but in 1888 and 1892 he supported Grover Cleveland for president of the United States. In 1892 he was appointed United States marshal for the district of Minnesota, and served during the great railroad strikes. One year later he resigned. In 1896 he returned to the Republican party on the financial issue, and in 1896, 1898 and 1900 campaigned in several states for that party. March 4, 1903, he took his seat in congress as representative from the Eighth Minnesota district. Since that date he had advocated many important measures on the floors of congress, and is known as the wit of the house. His service expires March 4, 1909. Mr. Bede has gained considerable reputation as a humorist and his services as a lyceum lecturer and after-dinner talker are greatly in demand all over the United States. He is married and has a pleasant residence at Pine City.

**Robert H. Blakenship,** superintendent of schools of Pine county, first saw the light of day in Asheville, N. C., December 22, 1866, and received his education first at the Mar's Hill Preparatory College of North Carolina and at the Flag Pond University of Tennessee. He came to Pine county in November, 1886, and was employed in the civil engineer corps of the St. Paul & Duluth Railway Company for two years. In 1888 he commenced teaching at Rush Lake, Chisago county, and continued in this capacity until 1890. In the fall of that year he went to Willow River, in Pine county, as principal of the schools there, which position he held until January 1, 1897, resigning to take up the duties of county superintendent. Since that date he has continued to hold the position, and his excellent work has attracted wide attention. He has brought the schools to a high grade of efficiency and he is loved by the children, as he is revered and respected by the parents. The present excellent system in vogue throughout the county is largely due to Mr. Blakenship's efforts, ably assisted by a competent corps of teachers. Mr. Blakenship was married in September, 1897, to Anna E. Hay, of Pine City, who died August 17, 1905, leaving three sons: Roswell, born June 10, 1900; Clifford, born October 2, 1901, and Howard, born May 27, 1903. Fraternally Mr. Blakenship associates with the Knights of Pythias, the Masons, the United Workmen and the Modern Woodmen.

**Hiram Brackett** was born in China, Me., and came to Pine City in 1868 from Aroostook, Me. He built a hotel and was the first postmaster of the town. He was also among the first to make improvements.

**Carl H. Brandes,** a generous and high-minded citizen, was born in Hornberg, Germany, September 20, 1828, son of Chris and Elizabeth (Bedman) Brandes, the former of whom died in 1840 and the latter in 1888. Carl H. Brandes received his early education in his native city and learned the furrier's trade. At the age of nineteen he entered the German army, remaining two years, after which he again resumed his trade. In 1853 he located in New York city and later in Milwaukee, Wis., subsequently in St. Paul, Minn., and then in Stillwater, Minn. Coming to Rush City, Minn., he pre-empted 160 acres of land, which he broke and improved, erecting buildings and carrying on general farming until 1863. He enlisted in the Union Army, August 19, 1864, at Fort Snelling, Minn., serving in Company G, Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He was discharged June 26, 1865, at Gallatin, Tenn. After working on his farm for some years he moved to Chengwatana, Minn., in 1867, and kept a hotel, later erecting a brewery. After seven years this establishment was burned and in 1878 Mr. Brandes came to Pine City. In 1883

RESIDENCE OF HENRY BRANDES, PINE CITY

he went to Sandstone and opened a hotel. After four years this hotel burned and Mr. Brandes returned to Pine City and farmed. In 1906 he retired from active life and sold 160 acres of his farm, still retaining 160 acres. He also owns eight building lots in the village. He is a Republican in politics and for eight years was one of the county commissioners, having also served as school treasurer, path master and side supervisor. He was supervisor of the construction of the St. Croix road from Pine City to the St. Croix river. He belongs to the United Workmen and to the G. A. R. Mr. Brandes was married at St. Paul on March 29, 1866, to Caiterina Overmann, born December 25, 1844, daughter of Chris and Sophia (Hannink) Overmann, natives of Germany. Mr. Overmann was a fruit grower. He died in 1855 and his widow died a year later. To Mr. and Mrs. Brandes were born ten children: Mrs. Emma Bartlett lives in Springfield, Ill.; Emiel C. lives in Isanti county, Minn.; Alvina is a trained nurse at Milwaukee; Mrs. Lena Staples, lives in Moscow, Idaho; Mrs. Emily Nason lives in Elk, Wash.; Arthur is a bookkeeper in North Dakota; Mrs. Alma A. Kirch taught in the St. Croix schools three terms, and is now in North Dakota, as are Carl and Oscar. Fred is at home. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church. Mr. Brandes is an estimable citizen in every respect.

**John Y. Breckenridge** was born May 7, 1864, at Bennington, Vt. He received a common school education and at an early age entered the employ of a lumber company at Windsor Locks, Conn., working as a collector for four years. In 1883 he entered the employ of E. C. Long & Co., general railway contractors of St. Paul, Minn., where he worked for four years as general outside manager or purchasing agent. He was married to Lizzie E. Stone at Pine City, Minn., May 12, 1886. He entered the drug business at Pine City in 1887, where he still continues. He was appointed postmaster at Pine City in 1889 and held the office for four years. He was reappointed in 1898, and still continues to hold the office. In politics he is a Republican and has held a leading position in Pine county in the councils of the party. He has served three terms as mayor of Pine City, as president of the Pine County Agricultural Association and as president of the Commercial Club, also as chairman of the congressional committee of the county for twenty years. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M., Knights of Pythias, Pythian Sisters, A. O. U. W., Degree of Honor and Sons of the American Revolution. He traces his ancestry back to James Breckenridge, who settled at Bennington, Vt., in 1727. John Younglove Breckenridge, senior, the father of the subject of this sketch, occupied the ancestral home at Bennington and there was married to Marie Anna Sophia Pickering, of Gloucestershire, England. In the stirring times at Ben-

nington during the Revolutionary War the Breckenridge family were important and potent factors in the great struggle. To John Y. Breckenridge and wife four children have been born, one dying in infancy, and John Y. Breckenridge, Jr., born June 30, 1888; Clinton Stone Breckenridge, born March 17, 1892, and Helen Jesena Breckenridge, born January 11, 1895. John Y. Breckenridge, Jr., is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and is now located in the drug business at Hinckley, Minn. Mrs. Lizzie E. Breckenridge is a lineal descendant of Thomas Stone, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, as well as of a long line of Scottish ancestry, both of the "Hazeltines" and MacKillsocks, or according to the more modern spelling the MacKusicks, whose genealogical trees date back to the year 1052 or thereabouts. Mrs. Breckenridge is eligible to the Daughters of the American Revolution. She is a registered pharmacist and was elected vice president for one term of the Minnesota Pharmaceutical Association. She is a woman of business ability, and while devoted to her home, has spent many years of her life behind the counter of the drug store of L. E. Breckenridge & Co. She gave four years of service as postmistress of Pine City. Her father, Colonel John F. Stone, now of Rush City, is a veteran of the Civil War and was for many years a popular and successful landlord of the Pioneer Hotel at Pine City. Mrs. Breckenridge's mother died in 1898. She was a highly respected member of society, a woman of rare talent and beloved by all who knew her. The Emily J. Stone Circle, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, perpetuates her name and shows the high regard in which she is held by her associates. Mrs. Breckenridge is a member of the O. E. S., Pythian Sisters and Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. She attends the Presbyterian church. Mr. and Mrs. Breckenridge occupy a fine home on the banks of the Snake river and also have a summer residence at Lake Pokegama, a few miles from town.

**Randall K. Burrows,** a native of Connecticut, came to Pine City in 1869 and with Adolph Munch built a large stave mill on the shores of Cross lake. This proved an unfortunate investment, resulting in litigation, during the progress of which the mill was destroyed by fire, in 1878. In 1874 Mr. Burrows was elected to the state senate. His seat was contested by John Hallburg, of Center City. The senate referred the question to the people and in the election which followed he was defeated. He moved to Dakota in 1879, and died three years later.

**Mrs. Amalie Buselmeier,** an able and capable business woman, was born in Germany, October 31, 1855, daughter of Frederick Wilhelm and Gertrude Zeller, natives of Germany. The father was the sole proprietor of a large brewery in the Fatherland. He

died October 2, 1866, and his wife passed away March 17, 1894. Mrs. Buselmeier received her early education in Germany and learned the details of her father's business. She was married in her native land to Rudolph Buselmeier, who was also a brewer. The young couple came to America to seek their fortunes together in 1878. They located first in St. Louis and opened a saloon, and after continuing for one year, came to Rush City and rented a brewery. After two years more they came to Pine City, purchased some land and erected a brewery and a comfortable home. The business was on the high road to prosperity when Mr. Buselmeier died, April 15, 1884, and for some time his widow carried on the business alone in a very successful manner. In this capacity she showed her ability as a manager and won the respect of all with whom she had business dealings. By her union with Rudolph Buselmeier she has four children: Marie A., Rudolph H., William F. and Carl A. In 1886, Mrs. Buselmeier married Theodore Buselmeier, a brother of her first husband. To Mrs. Buselmeier by her second husband have been born two children, Josephine M. and Theodore J. The family religion is that of the Catholic church.

**Arnold Cranton,** merchant, was born in Sidney, Cape Breton Island, May 24, 1862, on the anniversary of the Queen's birthday, son of Robert and Jane (Ross) Cranton, the former a native of England and the latter of the Isle of Skye. Robert Cranton died in 1867 and the mother is still living at Sidney. Arnold Cranton received his early education in Sidney and after school followed the farming and tailoring trade until coming to America in 1879. September 8, 1879, of that year he located in Stillwater, working in a sawmill for three months. He then drove an ox-team from Stillwater to Ann river in Kanabec county, Minn., where he worked in the logging camps until 1882. From that date until 1885 he continued to work at lumbering on the river and in the woods, after which he worked at bridge building on the St. Paul & Duluth, now the Northern Pacific, until 1888. In the latter year he purchased 160 acres in Pine township, Pine county, and broke and improved fifty acres, built a home and carried on general farming for several years. He rented the farm and returned to the woods and the rivers until 1901, and then moved to Pine City, where he has since been engaged in the fruit, confectionery, cigar and tobacco business. In 1903 he purchased the building in which the store is located and in addition to this he owns a pleasant home. He is a Democrat and a justice of the peace. While living on his farm he was a side supervisor of Pine township. Fraternally he associates with both the United Workmen and the Eagles. Mr. Cranton was married August 17, 1890, at St. Croix Falls to Delia Bordeaux, daughter

of John Bordeaux, of Chisago county, Minn. Mr. Bordeaux is deceased, and his widow resides in Rush City, Minn. To this union have been born eight children. Two boys and four girls died in infancy. Rosie was born December 30, 1892, and Myrtle was born in 1897. The family faith is that of the Catholic and Presbyterian churches.

**Julius Dosey** was born in the province of Holstein, Prussia, June 9, 1851, son of Otto and Margaret Dosey, natives of the City of Kiel, province of Holstein, Prussia. The father was a stock and grain buyer. He died in 1888 and his wife afterward came to America, where she died in 1894. Julius Dosey received his education in his native country and came to America in 1866, starting work at once as waterboy for a crew of railroad constructors on the New Jersey Central line, his headquarters being at Phillipsburg, N. J. The following year he drove mules on the Morris canal in New Jersey and in 1869 worked on the Belvidere & Delaware railroad, in the same state. After short stays in Omaha, Neb.; St. Paul Minn., and Rush City, Minn., he came to Pine City, Minn., and located, working in the woods during the season of 1870-71. In 1871-72, in company with R. C. Gardner, Gene Blanding and George Day, of Minneapolis, he was packer and explorer for the Pine City Lumber Company; in 1872-73 he worked on the Knife river for Peter Plumer; in 1874 engaged in logging for himself and continued in his pursuit until 1878; in that year he took up work for the St. Paul & Duluth railroad land department, estimating timber near the Carlton and the St. Louis rivers; in 1879-80-81 he helped estimate large tracts of timber on Cloquet river in St. Louis county; in 1881-82 helped to estimate similar tracts located on Sand creek, Crooked creek and the Lower Tamarack in the eastern part of Pine county; in the summer of 1882 he made the estimate of the Millelacs Lake Indian Reservation in Millelac county, Minnesota; in the summer of 1883 he went to Rainy Lake and worked for the Winnepeg Lumber Company, with Mahlon Black, estimating timber; 1884 he continued to cruise in northern Minnesota for iron and Pine timber and in 1885 commenced work for Philip Harris and David Tozer, estimating pine timber on Snake river. In 1886 he went to work for David Tozer and has remained in the employ of the David Tozer Company since that date, estimating timber in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Washington. Mr. Dosey was married November 21, 1875, at Pine City to Elizabeth Drews, of Chicago, Ill., daughter of H. H. and Elizabeth Drews, now of Rush City, Minn. To this union were born eight children: Ida, deputy county auditor; William, in the telephone business; Ernest, cashier of the Pine City State bank; Anna, a school teacher; Daniel, a lumberman; Elizabeth, a music teacher, and Julia and Esther,

who are at home. Mrs. Dosey died July 7, 1907, at her home in Pine City. The family faith is that of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Dosey is a Democrat in politics and has been a member of the village council over twenty years. In 1875 he served one year as town assessor and the following year was elected county commissioner, holding the position for four years. He is now serving his third term as president of the village council. His fraternal association includes membership in the Modern Woodmen and the United Workmen.

**John S. Ferson** came from Michigan to Pine City in 1869. He built a first class steam sawmill, which was located in the bay in the western part of the city. This mill was burned in 1872, rebuilt, and burned again. Mr. Ferson later removed to Dakota.

**Douglas Greeley,** banker, was born in Stillwater, Minn., November 24, 1860, son of Elan and Hannah P. (Hinman) Greeley, of whom extended notice is found earlier in this work in connection with the early days of Washington county and Stillwater. Douglas, as he was then called by his friends, received his early education in the schools of his native city, and engaged in the lumber business with his father. In 1894 he was elected county auditor of Pine county, and served for twelve years. In 1907 he was elected cashier of the Pine City State bank, which position he still holds. He is a Democrat in politics, and is now occupying the office of president of the village schools, a position he has filled with credit for several years. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the United Workmen. He now owns a pleasant residence in Pine City, where he lives with his wife, Mrs. Margarette Greeley, and two daughters, Kate, born in August, 1885, and Nellie, born September 22, 1888. The family faith is that of the Episcopal church. Mr. Greeley is a worthy son of a noble father. He is interested in the business development of the St. Croix valley and Pine county, and is always ready to assist in every good work.

**William Henry Hamlin,** county auditor, was born in Corydon, Warren county, Penn., September 20, 1853, son of Rice and Elizabeth (Tome) Hamlin, both natives of Pennsylvania, the grandparents being of that sturdy race of German extraction that settled in western Pennsylvania and left their impress on that state and its history for all time to come. Two years after young William Henry was born his parents came to Minnesota and he had scarcely completed the first decade of his life before he knew the sorrow of a home stricken with war's devastation, for two of his older brothers were slain on the field of battle, one at Gettysburg and one at Nashville, Tenn. Mr. Hamlin received his preliminary education in the district schools and also obtained valuable training from his father and mother. Added to this he

was, and in fact still is, a wide reader, and to this he owes his education more than to the few years he spent as a pupil in the public schools. He taught country schools nine terms and engaged in farming. Improving his few spare moments he learned surveying and became proficient in this branch. In 1902-06 he was postmaster at Pine Island, Minn., and he has also been justice of the peace; member of the school board and town clerk. He has served as county surveyor of the county of Pine and in his present capacity has given much satisfaction. He came to this county in 1898 and has already become a prominent citizen. In politics he associates with the Democratic party, but to a large degree is an independent voter and carefully considers the merits of each question and candidate at each election. Fraternally he belongs to the I. O. O. F. Mr. Hamlin was married March 19, 1879, to Frances Louisa Hart, to whom the following children have been born: Lois A., Robert E., Elizabeth L., Philip L. and Edith M.

**Frederick A. Hodge,** ex-senator, was born in Francestown, N. H., August 18, 1853, son of Samuel B. and Lucretia G. (Guild) Hodge. The father was a harness maker in New Hampshire. In 1899 he came to Pine City, Minn., and lived a retired life until September, 1901. His wife died December 23, 1900. Frederick A. Hodge received his education in the academy of his native town, and after leaving school went to Boston, Mass., where he worked in a jewelry store for two years. His next position was as bookkeeper for the Grant McCaine Lumber Company, of Hinckley, Minn., where he remained until 1877. He then came to Pine City, and in March of that year, was elected county auditor, in which office he continued until 1895, also dealing somewhat extensively in pine land. At the formation of the first state bank of Pine county, Mr. Hodge was chosen its president, which position he has since continued to occupy. He was town clerk and postmaster at Hinckley and in Pine county he has been county commissioner, superintendent of schools and county auditor, being a member of the state senate from 1894 to 1898. In addition to his other holdings he owns a pleasant home on the shores of Cross lake at Pine City. He has the distinction of belonging to the Sons of the Revolution and he also affiliates with the Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the United Workmen. Mr. Hodge was married November 11, 1884, to Carrie E. Webster, daughter of W. E. and Malinda R. (Eavey) Webster, natives of Illinois. Mr. Webster established a bank at Clarinda, Iowa, and was president of that institution until the time of his death. He was also a member of the Iowa legislature at the time of his death. His widow still survives, making her home with her son at Pine City. To Mr. and Mrs. Hodge has been born one son,

a boy of sixteen years, Webster G., born December 13, 1892. Mr. Hodge is a Republican in politics and the family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is honored throughout the community and has had an important part in the modern progress of the business and social interests of Pine county.

**James Hurley** was born in Vermont, February 10, 1852. His parents, Michael and Mary (Conneran) Hurley, were natives of Ireland. They came to America in 1850 and located in Brookfield, Vt., where the father followed railroad work and contracting for a short time. The family then lived successively at St. Paul., Minn., and Oxford and Linwood, Minn. In the latter place the father homesteaded 160 acres, broke and improved the land and carried on general farming until a few years before his death, when he sold his farm to his sons, William and John, and removed to North Branch, Minn. Michael Hurley and his wife Mary are both now deceased. James Hurley received his education in a log cabin schoolhouse in Anoka county, Minn. In 1870 he came to Pine county and teamed for three years, afterward doing mill work six years. In 1879 he was elected register of deeds and held that position for fourteen years. Two years after he took office he became clerk of the district court, holding that position continuously eight years. One year previous to retiring from office he engaged with his brothers in the wholesale liquor business in St. Paul and for four and a half years traveled for his firm. He then quit the road and engaged in the farm implement and machine business at Pine City. He is now proprietor of Hotel Agnes at Pine City, and president of the firm of Hurley Brothers, of St. Paul, his brother William being secretary and treasurer of the company. In addition to this Mr. Hurley owns considerable land in Pine county, both wild and improved. He is a Democrat in politics and is serving his tenth term as treasurer of the local high school board. He belongs to the Eagles. Mr. Hurley was married first to Mary Eagan, daughter of Michael Eagan, of Hinckley. To this union were born eight children: William, Michael, Martin, James, Frank, Mary, John and Agnes. The mother of these children died in December, 1892, and Mr. Hurley was married in November, 1894, to Katherine O'Brien, by whom he has had four children: Katherine, Margaret, Julia and Cecelia. The family worships at the Catholic church. The children have all been splendidly educated, Mr. Hurley having expended a fortune in this direction.

**Karl W. Knapp**, practicing dentist of Pine City, was born in Osceola, Wis., March 7, 1885, son of George B. and Claribel (Wilson) Knapp, natives of Osceola. For many years the father engaged in steamboating from Osceola to Stillwater. In 1892 he was appointed United States steamboat inspector with his

first headquarters at Galena, Ill. Later he was stationed at Dubuque, Iowa, where he still remains. Karl W. received his early education in the public schools and graduated from the State University at Iowa City in 1906. From there, after receiving his dental degree, he came directly to Pine City, and opened an office July 24, 1906. Being skilled in his profession, he soon secured a large practice and now, although still a young man, is far along on the road to success. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Congregational church. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and also has the honor of being enrolled in a Greek letter fraternity, the Alpha Phi Delta. Mr. Knapp was married September 21, 1907, at Pine City to Gladys Slocumb, of Dow City, Iowa, daughter of Rigdon A. and Laura A. (Purdy) Slocumb, now of Rockport, Mo., where the father is proprietor of the Hotel Chamberlain. To this union one daughter, Dorothy, was born July 19, 1908.

**Alfred H. Lambert** is a native of Gainsborough, Canada, born June 18, 1846, son of Robert and Eve (Beamer) Lambert, who lived and died at Lane's Chapel, Gainsborough, Canada. The father died in September, 1881, and the mother died the same year. Alfred H. Lambert received his education in his native land and then went to Steuben county, New York, lumbering for one year. He then went to Lockhaven, Pa., and in the fall of 1867 removed to St. Paul, Minn. Going by stage as far as Stillwater, he came to Pine county and became a lumberman, operating on Mud creek. Later he engaged in the liquor business, being the first man to obtain a license in Chengwatana, then the county seat. For some years he conducted a general store in connection with the Pine City Lumber company. Some time ago he purchased four lots in Pine City and built a comfortable home. In more recent years he has devoted considerable attention to the real estate business. Mr. Lambert is a Democrat and has served as county treasurer, mayor of the village, postmaster and justice of the peace. He belongs to the Masons, the United Workmen and the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Lambert was married April 12, 1871, to Mary Greene, daughter of Michael and Mary (Hamilton) Greene, natives of County Mayo, Ireland. To this union have been born six children, who grew to adult age: Lillian was born December 3, 1873; William A. was born May 31, 1875, and married Mrs. Nora Shepard; Robert E. was born October 28, 1876, and died September 22, 1901; Elizabeth was born February 20, 1883; John was born April 14, 1884; Bernard was born May 22, 1892, and several children died in infancy. Mrs. Lambert was born June 18, 1850, in County Mayo, Ireland, and came to America in May, 1866. The family is well thought of throughout the community.

**William H. McGrath,** a successful lumberman of Pine City, was born in Stillwater, Minn., July 6, 1881, son of John McGrath, of Wichlow, Ireland, and Mary (Kane) McGrath, a native of Philadelphia, Pa. They came west in 1879 and located for a time at Stillwater, afterward moving to Sterling township, Wisconsin. Here they purchased 480 acres of land, which the father broke, developed and improved, erecting several buildings. In 1891 they moved to Rush City, Wis., where they resided until the father's death in 1905. The mother is still living, making her home in North Dakota. William H. received his early education in the common schools and then attended preparatory school at Waverly, Iowa. In 1905 he received his degree of Bachelor of Arts from the University of Minnesota and in 1906 the degree of Doctor of Laws from the St. Paul College of Law. After this he became associated with C. W. Miller at Waverly, Iowa. Mr. Miller was chairman of the state central Democratic committee of the state of Iowa and editor of the Waverly "Democrat," and in the capacity of private secretary Mr. McGrath wrote many editorials and did considerable confidential business. January 10, 1907, Mr. McGrath came to Pine county and shortly afterward formed the Pine City Lumber Company, of which William H. McGrath and his brother, James E. McGrath, are the sole owners and proprietors, William being the manager. Mr. McGrath is a Democrat in politics and a member of the Catholic church. During his college days he was affiliated with the Phi Gamma Delta of the University of Minnesota. Mr. McGrath is one of the rising young men of the community, and his friends predict for him a successful future.

**Samuel Millet** settled in Pine City in 1869 and in 1870 erected the Bay View House on an elevated plateau, commanding a fine view of Cross lake and the Kanabec river. Mr. Millet died in 1879.

**James E. Netser,** retired, is a native of Maysville, Ky., born April 10, 1839, son of Sanford and Esther (Grimes) Netser, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Ohio. Sanford Netser was a slave owner in Kentucky. In 1844 he went to Ohio and engaged in the mercantile business until 1850, when he hoved to Moline, Ill., and farmed until his death in the fall of 1890. His wife died in 1852. James E. Netser received his education in Moline, Ill., and took up lumbering on the Mississippi river in 1853. In 1861 he joined the Union army at Albany, Ill., serving in Company F, Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Dunn and Colonel Sweeny. His service ended July 12, 1865, and he was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., receiving his discharge at Chicago, Ill. His war record was an honorable one, including participation in the battle of

Shiloh and all the engagements of the march from Atlanta to the sea. After the war he spent a year at Albany, Ill., and then came to Pine City, logging and lumbering until 1889. In that year he retired and has since resided in his pleasant home in Pine City. Although retired from the more strenuous duties of active life, he is interested in all public affairs, and his advice is highly valued by his associates. He has served with credit on the village council and is a prominent member of the B. F. Davis Post, No. 137, G. A. R., of Pine City. In politics Mr. Netser is a Democrat. He was married in November, 1875, at Pine City to Mrs. Albina M. Willard, daughter of Aruna Bliss, of Massachusetts. Both father and mother are now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Netser have been born three children: Edwin, born in May, 1876, married Ida Johnson; J. Bennett Bliss was born in 1882 and married Myrtle Scofield; Percy was born in October, 1883.

**Arthur R. W. Olsen,** editor and proprietor of the "Pine Poker," a paper named by the Hon. J. Adam Bede, was born in St. Peter, Minn., December 8, 1881, son of J. M. and Martha (Rice) Olsen, natives of Norway. The father came to St. Peter, Minn., at the age of twenty years and engaged in the mercantile business until 1882, when they sold out and retired. The father passed away in 1884 and the mother is still living at St. Peter. Arthur received his education in his native town and engaged in the printing business for the "St. Peter Herald" for five years. September 15, 1901, he came to Pine county and worked for a time on the "Pine County Pioneer." In July, 1906, he purchased a half interest in the "Pine Poker" with S. G. L. Roberts. The paper is bright and witty as could be expected of a publication bearing so apt a name, and the circulation is constantly increasing. Mr. Olsen is an able writer, and the paper has proven pleasing to the people of the county. Aside from issuing the newspaper, the plant is well equipped for all kinds of job printing, in which department the company has been most successful. Mr. Olsen is a desirable citizen in every respect. He is a friend of education and is always ready to assist in promoting every good project. A Republican in politics, he is also a member of the Methodist church. Fraternally he associates with the Knights of Pythias and the E. T. U. of Pine City.

**George Payne,** stationary engineer, was born in Nova Scotia, May 3, 1852, son of Robert and Kate (Southerland) Payne, the former a native of Terone county, Ireland, and the latter of Colchester county, Nova Scotia. The father came to Nova Scotia in his early manhood and married there. He took up farming and followed that occupation for the remainder of his

life. Robert Payne died in the fall of 1865 and his widow in 1899. George Payne received his education in Nova Scotia and farmed with his father until 1870, when he came to the United States and located at Pine City, logging in the woods and on the river until 1888, when he started his career as a stationary engineer. In 1899 he engaged as engineer for R. P. Allen in the roller mills, which position he still holds. He is competent and reliable and has the confidence of his employers. He is a Democrat in politics and has served several years as a member of the village council. He belongs to the United Workmen. Mr. Payne was married in October, 1875, to Jessie Gunn, of Nova Scotia, daughter of William and Kate (McKenzie) Gunn, both of whom are now deceased. To this union has been born three children: Maggie is assistant to the county clerk at the court house; Daniel is manager of the Westeman Lumber Company, of Pine City, and Lydia is bookkeeper for the R. P. Allen roller mills. The family faith is that of the Presbyterian church.

**Richard G. Robinson** was born in Iowa in 1829, moved with his parents to Illinois and later in 1848 he came to St. Croix Falls, where he followed lumbering, scaling, surveying and exploring. He lived at St. Croix and Taylors Falls until 1872, when he received the appointment of land examiner for the Lake Superior and Mississippi railroad. He was in the employ of that company twelve years, making his home in Pine City. He later engaged in lumbering and real estate. He was married to Catharine A. Fullenwider, of Iowa. Mr. Robinson met with a tragic death, having been burned to death in his own house.

**Elijah L. Seavey** is a New Englander, born in Crawford, Washington county, Me., March 1, 1834, son of John and Phœbe (Harmon) Seavey, who came of old Puritan stock. The father followed farming and lumbering practically all his life. During his later years he entered into the mercantile business at Crawford, Me., continuing until his death in June, 1856. His wife died in the spring of 1847. Elijah L. Seavey received his education in his native state and worked at lumbering and in the woods until coming west in June, 1855, when he located in Osceola, logging in the woods in the winter time. For twenty-two years he engaged in steamboating on the river. In 1878 he went to Taylors Falls and purchased city property, continuing logging until 1860, when he went to the gold fields in what is now Leadville, Cal., and engaged in mining for a time. He made the trip with an ox-team, the journey to Denver, Col., requiring seventy-two days. In 1862 Mr. Seavey returned to Osceola, Wis., and in April, 1890, came to Pine City and purchased a home, which he rebuilt and improved. Since that date he has engaged in farming and lumbering. Of his eighty acres,

forty are under cultivation and very productive. In politics Mr. Seavey is a Democrat and for two terms he was deputy sheriff of Polk county. Fraternally he associates with the Masons at Osceola. Mr. Seavey was married April 5, 1855, at Crawford, Me., to Rebecca Munson, of Wesley, Me., daughter of Jonathan and Margaret (Tinker) Munson, farmers and tavern keepers. Mr. Munson died at Wesley and his wife in California. To Mr. and Mrs. Seavey were born six children: Frank A., born December 2, 1857, and died September 23, 1872; Estelle V., born June 14, 1859; Stanton D., born October 22, 1862; Elsie I., born December 23, 1864; Effie A. T., born May 27, 1867, and Custer A., born June 26, 1875. The family faith is that of the Baptist church.

**Ottocar Sobotka,** lawyer, is a native of Bohemia, born February 19, 1877, son of John and Frances (Pojman) Sobotka, natives of Bohemia, who came to America in 1880 and located at Baltimore, Md., where the father was a furrier and tailor. Later they moved to Chicago, Ill., and in 1887 to St. Paul, Minn., where the father engaged in business for himself. The parents now live near Fort Snelling, Minn., the father having retired from business. Ottocar Sobotka received his education in the city schools, including the Central High School of St. Paul. He graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1902 and entered the law office of Resse & Zollman, remaining until 1904. For a time he practiced his profession in McLeod county, Minn., and in February, 1907, opened a law office in Pine City, where he has since continued, meeting with much success and enjoying a large practice, both consulting and pleading. In May, 1898, he enlisted at Fort Snelling and saw service in the Spanish American war with the famous Gray Horse Troop, Troop I, Sixth United States Cavalry. He served as a trumpeter and received his discharge in February, 1899, at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He has also served thirteen years in the Minnesota National Guards. During the sixth year of his university course he was appointed first lieutenant and adjutant. He was married, January 17, 1905, at Silver Lake, McLeod county, to Josephine Totuskek, of that place, daughter of Hynek and Josephine (Hagar) Totuskek, born in March, 1882. To this union one child has been born, Mildred, born February 16, 1906. Mr. Sobotka is a Republican in politics and his religion is that of the Presbyterian church. He belongs to the Masons and the Knights of Pythias and is well liked by his associates.

**E. W. Splittstoser,** manufacturer, was born in Isanti county, Minnesota, May 9, 1877, son of Ferdinand and Johannah (Kruger) Splittstoser, natives of West Preiston, Germany. The parents came to America in the early fifties and the father is

now a manufacturer of potato speayrs at North Branch, Minn. E. W. Splittstoser learned the machinist trade and followed this business at North Branch until June, 1906, when he came to Pine City and opened a machine shop. He purchased land and erected a suitable building, in which he does all kinds of machine work, including automobile and launch repairing and the manufacturing of marine engines. He has an increasing business and the excellence of his work speaks for itself. In politics a Republican, he has never sought office, although taking an interest in all matters that have to do with the business growth and prosperity of the village and township. Mr. Splittstoser was married, January 23, 1901, to Alice M. Sanborn, of Wyoming, Minn., daughter of W. H. and Dora (Koch), farmers of that place. To Mr. and Mrs. Splittstoser have been born five children: Dora, Elenora, Esther, Ruth and Raymond. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

**Judge Robert Wilcox** is a native of Sunrise, Minn., born April 2, 1871, son of Oliver and Louise (Clover) Wilcox, natives of New York state, who came to Sunrise, Minn., in 1857, purchased a farm and kept a general store for a few years until 1871, when they came to Pine City and followed the lumbering and boarding house business for four years. In 1880 Oliver Wilcox was elected county treasurer and served six years, after which he lived a retired life until his death, September 18, 1907. His widow is still living, making her home with her son, Robert. Robert Wilcox received his education in Pine City and followed various occupations until 1902, when he was elected judge of probate, which position he still holds. In this judicial capacity his services have given much satisfaction. He is fair and impartial, a man of good judgment, whose knowledge of the law is tempered with good common sense. He is a Democrat in politics and has served as justice of the peace, village recorder and councilman. He fraternizes with the United Workmen, the Knights of Pythias, the Eagles and the Modern Woodmen, in all of which societies he is well liked. In every way he is considered an ideal citizen. Judge Wilcox was married, November 14, 1894, to Olivia Selin, daughter of Erick and Catrina E. (Westin) Selin, natives of Sweden, both now deceased. To this union have been born six children: Oliver, born September 30, 1895, died November 16, 1895; Louise M., born September 29, 1896; Dewey R., born June 22, 1898; Nora O., born April 20, 1900; Lester O., born December 25, 1901, and Ernest S., born October 27, 1905. The family faith is that of the Presbyterian church.

**John D. Wilcox** is a native of Erie county, New York, born May 7, 1829. He received his early education in the Griffith

State Academy in his native county and taught school five years at Springville in that county. In 1849 during the great gold excitement he went to California as engineer for a mining company, remaining until 1852. He then returned to his native state for a short time and in 1853 came to Taylors Falls, Minn., and built the first sawmill. In 1862 he joined the Union army at St. Paul, enlisting in Company M, First Minnesota Mounted Rangers, December 20 of that year. After being mustered out at Fort Snelling in the spring of 1863 he went out on the plains, remaining eighteen months, being quartermaster sergeant. Colonel Sibley appointed him Indian scout and in this capacity he had many interesting adventures. From this service he was discharged at Fort Snelling in 1864 and took up teaching at Sunrise, Minn., until 1869. From then until 1872 he taught at Chengwatana, Minn., when he came to Pine City, where he purchased seventeen acres in the city and 160 acres in the township, carrying on general farming. Aside from his military service Mr. Wilcox has done his country distinguished service as a public officer. He was superintendent of county schools six years, judge of probate six years, county attorney twelve years, register of deeds five years and county surveyor ten years. In politics he is a Democrat, and belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Grand Army. Mr. Wilcox was married, April 15, 1860, to Sarah Cleves, daughter of B. B. and Abigail Cleves, of Sunrise, Minn. To this union were born eight children: Horace, Florence, Grace, Eugene, John, Louise, Isabella and Lee, the latter of whom is deceased. Mrs. Wilcox died December 21, 1903. Mr. Wilcox is a fine type of the early pioneers and he enjoys the respect and confidence of all who know him.

**Fred A. Wiley,** merchant, was born in Mitchell, Mitchell county, Iowa, May 22, 1860, son of George E. and Sarah A. (Drake) Wiley, natives of New York state, who settled in Mitchell county, Iowa, in 1856, later going to Otranto, Iowa. In 1882 they moved to South Dakota and were among the first settlers of Carthage in that state, taking up 320 acres of land. The father carried on general farming until his death, June 5, 1902, and the mother still makes her home at Carthage. Fred A. Wiley received his education in his native county and took up farming with his father, going to South Dakota with the family in 1882. He took up half a section of government land and carried on general farming, making a specialty of stock raising. In 1902 he rented his farm in Dakota and came to Pine City, engaging in the mercantile business, in which he has since continued, doing a large business along the latest approved methods. He has been successful and carries a large stock of goods. He is a Republican in politics and while in South Dakota served

as constable for several terms. Since his residence in Pine City he has been too busy to seek political office. He is a Presbyterian and belongs to the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Wiley was married, August 21, 1904, at Pine City to Etta M. Derr, daughter of Robert and Mary (Finch) Derr, natives of Michigan. They moved to Alexandria, S. D., and bought city property, remaining two years, afterward settling in Carthage, S. D., and purchased a farm of 160 acres. The father was a mason by trade. In 1897 he came to Pine City and purchased some land, where he still lives. The first wife of Robert Derr died March 8, 1882, and he married again in 1884, his second wife passing away in 1898. To Mr. and Mrs. Wiley has been born one daughter, Melba, born August 28, 1908.

**Rock Creek** is situated on the Northern Pacific railroad and has a population of fifty. It is five miles south of Pine City, and has a creamery, two sawmills, a Methodist church, general stores, a fuel dealer, two produce dealers, a jeweler, livery stable and blacksmith shop.

**Rutledge** is a village of 225 people, on the Northern Pacific railroad thirty-five miles north of Pine City and five miles south of Finlayson. It has Methodist and Catholic churches and a sawmill, saloon and general store.

**Sandstone** is the largest village in Pine county. It has a population of 1,500 people and is situated on the Kettle river and the Great Northern railroad, twenty-two miles north of Pine City. It has graded and high schools, three hotels, two banks, twelve churches, one opera house, an electric light and water plant, a creosote block factory, public library and two weekly newspapers. Large quarries of buff sandstone of excellent building quality in inexhaustible supply are located here. Land in this vicinity is worth from $10 to $40 an acre. The village exports sheep and other live stock, farm produce and stone. Sandstone is the largest village between the twin cities and the head of the lakes. It is eighty-five miles from St. Paul and sixty-five miles from Duluth, in the center of what promises to be one of the prosperous and productive spots of Minnesota. The first work in opening the quarries was done August 22, 1885. The village was surveyed and platted in June, 1887, and a postoffice established there February preceding, W. H. Grant, Jr., being the first postmaster. Sandstone is located on the old site of Fortuna.

The fact that there is a village today by the name of Sandstone is due largely to the efforts of Pine county's pioneer land man, Col. W. H. Grant. He took the first samples of rock from the local quarry to St. Paul for inspection. In 1885 he came here to remain, developing the quarry and dealing in land. The

stone was first taken to the junction, a distance of three miles, with ox teams, but in 1888 the spur track was built to the quarry from the junction on the Northern Pacific railroad. A small town began to grow up around the top of the quarry and it was incorporated in 1889. Mr. Grant was liberal and planned big things for this little village. By 1894 there were only about 350 inhabitants, yet they had a fine school building and a modern waterworks system. On September 1, 1894, the village was entirely destroyed by the great Hinckley fire and a large number of lives were lost. This was a great setback, but the remaining inhabitants bravely set to work to build a better and a larger Sandstone. The Great Northern had completed its road through Sandstone just before the fire and when the village was rebuilt it was nearly half a mile from the old location, as it was built over near the Great Northern depot. It has steadily grown since that time and now has nearly 2,000 people. The quarry, which is the main industry of the town, was sold by Colonel Grant to a Boston incorporation for $120,000. Ring & Toben then bought it, but they went bankrupt, and George W. Bestor secured possession and started operations in 1895, and since that time has rapidly grown until it is now one of the largest quarries in the West.

The village met with another severe loss in the fall of 1898, when nearly one-half of the business district was destroyed by fire. Sandstone was made the division point of the Great Northern between St. Paul and Duluth in 1895, and that help to swell the population. In 1895 the quarry company started the creosoting plant, which has been increased in size until it today gives employment to about 100 men. The rapid increase can be illustrated by the school houses here. In 1895 a one-room building was constructed, but that was soon filled to overflowing and a four-room building was constructed. This answered the purposes for only three years, when a fine stone structure of eleven rooms was built at the cost of $25,000. This has now become too small and two smaller buildings are now being rented, and $25,000 more has been voted to erect another building as large as the present one. The preliminary work for a $7,000 sewer has already been done and it is expected that the work will be constructed during the coming summer. These improvements will make Sandstone not only the largest but the most modern village in this part of the country. The quarry company last summer completed a large dam about one mile down the river from the quarry, which will furnish them with all the power they will need for the next several years, as it will develop 2,000 horsepower. The soil here is as good as can be found in the state and the desirable location will certainly

attract the farmers so that it will be settled up within the next few years.

**Carl W. Colby,** proprietor of the "Pine County Courier," was born at Plainview, Minn., August 1, 1875, son of Loyal and Orilla (Avery) Colby, natives of Vermont. In the fifties the father followed the great rush of gold seekers to California, but like many others failed to make his fortune, though the venture netted him a fair return. In the late fifties he came to Plainview, Minn., and homesteaded 160 acres of land. In 1867, after he had things well started on his farm, he went back to Vermont and married, bringing with him on his return his wife, who was to share with him the task of making a home and building a family tree in what was then comparatively a new country. He has continued on the farm, carrying on general farming and stock raising. He has become one of the honored and prosperous residents of this locality, and his wife has proved an able helpmeet in all his undertakings. Carl, as he was then familiarly called by his friends, worked on the farm and attended such schools as the county afforded. He received a high school education at Plainview and then entered the State University in Minnesota, graduating in 1903. Being of an independent spirit, he assisted himself by teaching during the last three years of his college life and after graduating continued teaching for two years, his field of service including the schools at Plainview and Verndale and the high school at Delano. In July, 1905, he came to Sandstone, Minn., and purchased the paper of which he is now the proprietor. In 1907 he purchased the Finlayson "News" and now edits both papers. He has enlarged his papers from four-page five-column sheets to six-column eight-page publications, and aside from issuing the papers he does a large commercial and job printing business. His editorials are thoughtful, his news is bright and up-to-date and his work ranks high among that of the country editors of the state. Mr. Colby was married, January 1, 1901, at Drayton, N. D., to Anetta Anderson, of Minneapolis. By this union there is one child, Vernon, born June 30, 1904, at Delano, Minn. Mr. Colby is a Republican in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He affiliates with the Modern Woodmen. In May, 1898. Mr. Colby enlisted in Company F, Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteers, as slide-trombone in the band, and served in the Spanish-American war until October, 1899. It is worthy of note that the "Pine County Courier" has the largest circulation of any paper in Pine county.

**Albert L. Glasow,** a well-to-do farmer, was born in Niagara county, New York, April 18, 1861, and received his education in the public schools of Niagara county, supplementing this with

a course in a business college at Fond du Lac, Wis. He took up farming with his father until twenty-one years of age and then went to Plymouth, Wis., where he learned the trade of cheese making. In 1882 he conducted a cheese factory in Sheboygan county, remaining for two years. In 1884 he came to Pine City, Minn., and worked for his brother in a general store. After three years in that employ he came to Sandstone, where he is now located. He opened a general store, his being the first establishment of that nature in Sandstone. When Mr. Glasow came here Henry Narnik had a small shanty 12x16 feet, in which was a small stock of goods, which our subject bought. To this stock he added everything usually carried in a general country store. About this time he purchased 80 acres within the village limits and carried on farming on a limited scale. His mercantile business was progressing nicely, when September 1, 1894, everything he owned was completely destroyed by the great fire which swept the village on that date. Mr. Glasow and his family saved their lives by fleeing to the Kettle river and finding refuge in its waters until the flames had ceased their devastation. Soon after the loss Mr. Glasow sold thirty-five acres of his land, but later added eighty more, upon which he built a fine house, where he has since continued to live. He has improved and developed the land and now has an excellent farm of 125 acres upon which he carried on general farming. Mr. Glasow was married January 6, 1890, to Bertha Sievert, of Chicago, Ill., a native of Germany, daughter of Henry and Margaret Sievert, who came from Holstein, Germany, to America and located at Chicago, Ill., in 1888. Her father died two months after his arrival in this country and the mother died at Mr. Glasow's home in March, 1898. To Mr. and Mrs. Glasow have been born five children: William, January 24, 1892; Arthur, July 3, 1893; Margaret, January 4, 1898; Elsie, September 8, 1903, and Meta, January 14, 1905, all being at home. The family faith is that of the German Lutheran church. Mr. Glasow is a Republican in politics and has served on the village board, being at one time president of the village council. He was appointed postmaster August 1, 1896, and served until 1901, being assistant the year following. He has served on the school board and in 1898 was elected to serve three years as school clerk.

**Dr. Walter A. McEachern** was born at Eau Claire, Wis., September 5, 1873, son of Alexander and Ellen (Wright) McEachern, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of New York. From Scotland, Alexander McEachern went to Canada and thence to America, locating at Eau Claire, engaging first in the lumbering business and later in the mercantile business until

1885, when he sold out and moved to Superior, Wis., where he again engaged in mercantile pursuits. His wife died there in 1892, when he sold his business and migrated west, now living a retired life at Coeur d'Alene, Ida. Dr. McEachern received his high school education at Superior and then entered the University at Madison, Wis. He was at Madison two years, then went to Rush Medical College at Chicago. In 1895 he came to Sandstone and entered the office of Dr. Cowan, remaining until 1905. During this period he took a post-graduate course in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Chicago, finishing the course in 1904. The following year he furnished a well-equipped office for himself and has since continued a successful practice of medicine. He is known many miles around for his skill and his pleasing personality has added greatly to his popularity. August 2, 1895, he was married at Lake City, Minn., to Helena M. Ingraham, of that city. Mrs. McEachern's mother died when she was very young and she was reared by her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Ingraham, of Lake City. She was born December 16, 1878. Dr. McEachern is a staunch Republican in politics and attends both the Presbyterian and Episcopalian churches. He affiliates with the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen. He is also a member of the Phi Rho Sigma of Chicago. For several years he was deputy coroner of the county and is now coroner as well as health officer. His medical associations include membership in the Pine and Chisago County Medical associations, and also the state and national medical associations. His influence is far reaching and he is a representative citizen.

**Walter Scott,** proprietor and manager of the Walter Scott Mercantile Company, was born October 20, 1856, son of Andrew and Margaret (Durkan) Scott, both highly respected residents of New York state. The mother died at Cazenovia, N. Y., and the father in 1899 came west to spend his declining years in this section of the country. Walter Scott received his education in the public schools of Cazenovia, N. Y., and entered into the mercantile business in his native town, continuing until 1883, when he migrated west to Hinckley, Minn., and entered the employ of the Brennan Lumber Company as manager of their general store, which they conducted in connection with their lumber business. This position he held until 1894, when the store was destroyed by the great Hinckley fire. Mr. Scott then came to Sandstone, built a store and entered into the mercantile business, also engaging in the retail lumber business. The business has increased and Mr. Scott has enlarged his building, having one of the largest and best equipped stores in Pine county. His stock of dry goods, hardware, furniture and groceries is valued

at about $25,000. Mr. Scott was first married to Annie Dowd, of Cazenovia, N. Y., who died in Minnesota. For his second wife he married Annie F. Hawley, of Hinckley, daughter of John Hawley, a native of Canada. To this union were born three children: Margaret, Lester and Franklin, all of whom are at home. Mr. Scott is a Democrat in politics and is a member of the village council. He belongs to the Catholic church and affiliates with the Modern Woodmen. He is a hard working man and deserves much credit for the success that he has won.

**Guy N. Wyckoff** claims Marquette, Mich., as his natal place, his birth having taken place there February 21, 1878. His parents, James W. and Emma E. (Keif) Wyckoff, located in Marquette in the early seventies. His mother died in January, 1890. His father remarried and is now located at Hancock, Mich., where he is a quarry manager. Guy N. Wyckoff received his education at the Jacobsville (Mich.) High School and in addition to this took a commercial course at Big Rapids, Mich. At once upon leaving school he engaged in the quarry business at Jacobsville, Mich., entering the employ of the Portage Entry Quarry company, in whose employ he remained until 1906. Coming to Sandstone in that year, he took charge of the creosoting works for the Kettle River Quarry Company, and after one year was chosen as superintendent of the Sandstone quarry of the same company, the duties of which position he has faithfully discharged ever since. Mr. Wyckoff was married at Lake Linden, Mich., to Lillie Owens, of that place, September 12, 1900. Mrs. Wyckoff is the daughter of George and Mary (Cullen) Owens, and has borne to her husband one daughter, Marion, born September 24, 1901. Mr. Wyckoff is a Republican in politics and a member of the Congregational church. He affiliates with the United Workmen, the Odd Fellows and the Mystic Workers of the World.

**William H. Grant, Sr.,** one of the founders of Hinckley and the founder of the sandstone quarry enterprises at Sandstone, was born December 23, 1829, at Lyndborough, N. H., and received his education at Hancock Academy, in that state, and the Yates Academy in New York state. He studied law and was admitted to practice in 1854 at Hillsborough, N. H. He located in St. Paul in 1854. Later he disposed of all his interest in the quarry. Mr. Grant married Martha McKean in New Hampshire in January, 1855.

**Sturgeon Lake** has a population of 175 and is situated on the Northern Pacific railroad 36 miles north of Pine City and six miles south of Moose Lake. It has a Catholic church, five sawmills, three general stores, one blacksmith, one saloon, a grocery store and a local life insurance company.

**Willow River** numbers 575 inhabitants. It is situated on the Northern Pacific railroad thirty-five miles north of Pine City and has Catholic, Presbyterian and Episcopal churches. There are two general stores, three saloons, one physician, two flour dealers, one blacksmith shop, one hardware store, one livery stable and one sawmill.

**Thomas Hady** is a native of Austria, born October 10, 1858, son of Frank and Kate Hady, also natives of Austria. They came to America in 1867 and located in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, where the father took up lumbering, which he followed for many years. He now lives a retired life in the city of Watertown, Wis. Thomas Hady received his education in the public schools and farmed until 1884, when he went to North Dakota and homesteaded 160 acres, proved up his claim, broke and improved the land and carried on general farming until 1894. June 11 of that year he came to Pine county, bought eighty acres, built a house and barns and started farming on his own accord. In October he brought his family to the farm and remained until 1902, when he came to Willow River and worked for the Atwood Lumber Company. Later he engaged in the mercantile business, also conducting a restaurant and handling cigars, tobacco and confectionery. In this business he has continued to the present time, enjoying a large trade. He is independent in politics and has served on the village council. He belongs to the United Workmen. Mr. Hady was married November 21, 1891, in North Dakota to Tresa Fara, a native of Austria. To this union have been born two children: Eleanor, born June 5, 1893, and Frank T., born October 21, 1899. Both children are at home and are doing well in their studies. The family faith is that of the Catholic church.

**Frank D. Laufenburg** is a native of Minnesota, born in Winona county, September 28, 1865. His parents, Andrew and Mary Laufenburg, were natives of Luxemburg, Germany, and came to America in 1852. They located in Winona county, bought 160 acres and carried on general farming until 1899. The father died at Winona in May, 1905, and the mother died in November, 1865. Frank D. Laufenburg received his education in the public schools of Winona and farmed with his father until 1891. He then came to Willow River and followed lumbering and milling until 1905, when he engaged in the liquor business, continuing the same until December 1, 1908, when he sold out. He now resides with his family in a pleasant residence in the village of Willow River. He is a Republican in politics and has served as town clerk. Mr. Laufenburg was married, October 23, 1903, to Mary Stephan, of Willow River, daughter of Albert and Anna Stephan, natives of Bohemia. To this union

have been born two children: Howard, born July 8, 1904, and Ione, born May 9, 1906. The family worships at the Presbyterian church.

**Ole Thompson,** mayor of Willow River, was born in Norway, October 1, 1848, son of Thorne and Anna Thompson, the former of whom died in March, 1855, and the latter in 1898. Ole Thompson received his education in the schools of Norway and America, having come to America with his aunt and uncle in 1862 when fourteen years of age. He remained on a farm at Stoughton, Dane county, Wis., until 1866, when he learned the wagon trade. In 1871 he went to Buffalo county, Wisconsin, and started a wagon shop. In 1892 he went to La Crosse, Wis., and engaged in the hotel business, then came to Willow River and started a blacksmith and wagon-making shop. After three years of this he engaged in the meat business, which he still continues. Aside from his business he owns a pleasant home in the village. He is a Republican in politics and was elected to his present office of mayor in 1905. He has also served on the village council and on the police force, being constable for three years. Mr. Thompson was married, October 12, 1888, at Stoughton, Dane county, Wis., to Caroline Jenson, of that place, daughter of Jens and Carrie (Ladd) Jenson, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1852. Mr. Jenson died in 1853 and his widow in 1905. To Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have been born ten Clara (deceased), Cora, Otis and Irene (deceased). The family children: Mary (deceased), Matilda, Emma, Eva, Luella, Edd, attends the Lutheran church.

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